Hafa Adai! Volume XXIV, Issue No. 81 **THURSDAY** APRIL 24, 2014 www.saipantribune.com

Saipan Tribune

75¢

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

BEACH ROAD CRASH
A police officer checks a car that has extensive damage in front after an accident involving three vehicles in front of Islands Sea Food along Beach Road, Garapan yesterday afternoon. No one was reported injured.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

GOT A NEWS TIP?
TEL: 235-6397
235-2440
FAX: 235-3740
EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

251 DAYS
BEFORE THE CW PROGRAM EXPIRES ON DEC. 31, 2014

OPINION METER
This week's poll:
Should elected public officials in the CNMI be required to undergo drug testing?
Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

WORLD

Hundreds of civilians are killed in the massacre last week in South Sudan. ➤ PAGE 20

Jury deliberations begin

» Prosecution plays Romero's 911 call again
» Defense: Romero's murder remains unsolved

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The six jurors began deliberations yesterday afternoon in the jury trial of Joseph A. Crisostomo, a 40-year-old habitual offender accused of kidnapping, raping, killing, and robbing bartender Emerita "Emie" R. Romero on Feb. 5, 2012.

The jurors were excused late yesterday at 5:50pm and were ordered to return today, Thursday, at 8:15am to continue deliberations.

The deliberations started shortly after the prosecution and the defense counsel completed their closing arguments and Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho gave the jury instructions.

In the government's closing arguments, assistant attorney general Margo Brown-Badawy said the mass of evidence they have presented proves beyond reasonable doubt that the only verdict the jury must come up with is guilty.

Romero

Crisostomo

In wrapping up the government's closing arguments, Brown-Badawy and interim chief prosecutor Brian Flaherty again played the harrowing 911 call recording where Romero is heard crying, screaming, and begging for her life,

See JURY on Page 4

3 MHS students are Gates Millennium Scholars

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Three Marianas High School seniors received the good news Wednesday that they've been named Gates Millennium Scholars, among 1,000 other students around the globe selected to receive the prestigious scholarship.

See MHS on Page 4

Marianas High School counselor Janice Muna, left, pose with the school's three Gates Millennium Scholars: Stephanie Xiao, Jill Ann Arada, and Matthew Lopez. These three MHS seniors are among 1,000 other students around the globe chosen to receive the prestigious scholarship. THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

'HK investor in CNMI officials' trip not among two casino applicants'

» Details emerge about Marianas Stars, Best Sunshine

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), Senate vice president Victor Hocog (R-Saipan), and Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) said yesterday that the investor group that invited and hosted them in separate "fact-finding" trips in Hong Kong and/or Macau months ago is not among the two investor groups that are applying to develop a casino resort on Saipan, even as more details about the two applicants emerge. Torres also disclosed for the first time the name of the company that "paid" for their trip, Esteem Capital.

RELATED NEWS
➤ Where will total $2M application fee go? PAGE 8

That the name of the investor group that brought these officials to Hong Kong has been kept secret until now has been drawing flak from the community.

Many raised concerns that the Saipan casino bill that was passed by the Legislature—without a commit-

See CASINO on Page 4

CHCC board finds Walker denied due process. PAGE 2
Ex-Corrections officer files EEOC complaint. PAGE 3

IT&E
Life in Motion
See you at
Flametree Festival
BEST PRICE
Guaranteed
APRIL 25 (5PM – 9PM)
APRIL 26 (4PM – 9PM)
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS
*Terms and conditions apply

Local

CHCC board finds Walker denied due process

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board of trustees ruled yesterday in favor of Dr. Grant Walker, after finding that the physician was denied due process when his medical privilege was terminated by the corporation's governing body headed by CEO Esther Muña.

CHCC hired Walker from Idaho to serve as the hospital's orthopedic surgeon for 30 days in October last year. Prior to his contract's expiration, the governing body terminated his medical privileges due to a host of issues, including alleged unprofessional misconduct and insubordination.

Medical privilege allows a physician to use the treatment facilities of the public hospital for surgeries and operations. Losing this privilege, a doctor—whether in public or private clinics—cannot operate or provide services to his clients.

Yesterday, the board adopted Resolution 2014-02 with two oppositions—from Muña and trustee Anthony Raho. Those who voted in favor of the resolution were board chair Joaquin Torres, vice chair Pete Dela Cruz, trustee Roy Rios, and trustee Phillip Mendiola-Long.

When asked for comments, Raho explained that he didn't agree with the resolution's recommendation. "I am not saying I don't support the concern the board has. I just have a different opinion of what the board should do," Raho told *Saipan Tribune*.

The resolution specifically ordered the corporation's governing body to grant Walker a 90-day renewable medical privilege or show cause why he should not be granted the privilege.

The board ordered the governing body—composed of Muña, interim CFO Cora Ada, director of Medical Affairs Dr. Sherleen Osman, and member Norman Nakamura—to do it in 10 days after the board's decision.

The resolution immediately passed on the floor yesterday, right after the first and second motion were made, without a single discussion in the open session.

In an interview with Torres after the meeting yesterday, he said the resolution, which is about "staff credentialing," was extensively tackled in the executive session yesterday and in previous meetings.

When asked what motivated the board to act on the issue, Torres said the board determined that Walker was never accorded due process when his privilege was revoked.

"The board believes that he was not given due process and our intention is to correct that mistake. Based on policy, when one is terminated he/she has the right to a hearing and even after the hearing, there's an appeal process. None was exercised [in Walker's case]," said Torres.

Even when Walker formally applied to be granted medical privilege, due process was not adhered to. According to Torres, credentialing policy dictates that the authorized committee has 90 days to act on any application for medical privilege. Walker, he said, filed his application in November but no decision has been made up to this date.

Walker has expressed a desire to return to the island and work either at the public hospital or private sector.

Torres said that for the board, the issue is "dragging on for too long" and needs finality.

Under the law, the CHCC board is an "advisory" body only. When asked how effective yesterday's resolution is, Torres said the board has a fiduciary duty in four areas: strategic planning, hiring of CEO, credentialing of staff, and ensuring the quality of services provided to patients.

Early Signs of Autism
Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Red flags to watch for from birth to age 3

Social

Children with autism may:

- Not share warm, joyful facial expressions, such as smiles by 6 months
- Not babble and coo by 12 months
- Not respond to their name by 12 months
- Use few or no gestures (e.g., does not wave goodbye, point, etc.) by 12 months
- Not play "pretend" games (pretend to "feed" a doll) by 18 months
- Avoid eye contact
- Avoid other people and prefer to play alone
- Prefer not to be held or cuddled
- Have delayed speech and language skills.

Behavioral

Children with autism may:

- Be very organized (e.g., line up toys or other objects)
- Get upset by minor changes
- Have odd movement patterns (e.g., flaps hands, rocks body, or spins self in circles)
- Have frequent temper tantrums
- Be overly active
- Purposely hurt themselves
- Repeat words or actions over and over
- Look at objects from unusual angles.

Other areas

Children with autism often:

- Are overly sensitive to touch, sounds, taste or smells
- Lack fear in dangerous situations
- Have an intense need for routines
- Have learning difficulties
- Lose skills they once had (for instance, stop saying words they were using).

If you have concerns about your child's development, contact your baby's doctor or call the Children's Developmental Assistance Center at **664-4830** for a free developmental screening.

Children with autism can learn, grow and succeed.

Early action is the key!

Big Steps for Little Feet · Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. · CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early.
Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.

Japanese government offers scholarships to CNMI students

The Japanese government is offering students in the CNMI who are U.S. citizens scholarships for three separate fields of study.

Based on information received by the Consular Office of Japan on Saipan from the Consulate General of Japan in Hagatna, Guam, the Japanese government is offering three separate scholarships under the categories of "specialized training college students," "undergraduate students," and "research students."

Consular Office of Japan consul Hitoshi Kikuchi said that CNMI students could avail of these scholarships if they want to study in Japan.

"But they have to go through a preparatory stage and undertake written examinations," he said.

Kikuchi noted that it is a great opportunity for students in the CNMI if they want to study abroad and it'll depend on the chosen applicant if they want to stay in Japan to further their education.

They can choose from different fields of study such as technology, personal care and nutrition, education and welfare, business, fashion and home economics, culture and general education, and other fields.

All three categories have its own special requirements for turning in applications but all are required to be fully completed.

For those who want to study under "specialized training college students," they will have to undertake a three-year scholarship course. They are required to hold U.S. citizenship, born between April 2, 1993, and April 1, 1998, have completed a 12-year regular course of school or equivalent to senior high schools in Japan, willing to learn the Japanese language and receive training in the Japanese language, and be able to leave for and arrive in Japan between April 1 and 7, 2015.

The specialized training scholarship also offers a monthly allowance of about a $1,000 or more, depending on the annual budget each year. They will also have a paid economy-class ticket to Japan according to the region where they will be placed in but any transportation within Japan will be at the student's expense. Those who complete the three-year course will also be given a free plane ticket back, and all fees will be paid for, including entrance examinations, matriculation, and tuition.

For those who want to study under "undergraduate students," they will have to undertake a five-year scholarship course. They also have the same requirements as the "specialized training college students."

Students will be able to choose from a variety of fields of study such as social sciences and humanities and natural sciences. All school fees will be paid as well as a monthly allowance.

For those who want to study under "research students," they are required to hold U.S. citizenship, born on or after April 2, 1980, be a university graduate, be able to leave for Japan between April 1 and 7, 2015, conduct research in the same or related field majored as an undergraduate, and be able to contact and obtain a letter of acceptance from a professor at the Japanese university. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

Islandwide Cleanup on April 25

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's 31st Annual Islandwide Cleanup for Environmental Awareness Month will be held on Friday, April 25, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. To have your office or organization sign up for this event, contact BECQ at 664-8500 or email the event coordinators Edward Dela Cruz at edwarddelacruz@deq.gov.mp or Tom Pangelinan at tompangelinan@deq.gov.mp for a registration forms. ***(BECQ)***

Ex-Corrections officer files discrimination complaint vs DOC

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former Corrections officer has filed a complaint with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, alleging that the Department of Corrections discriminated against him when it terminated him from his job.

Edward Matagolai Cepeda said he received three separation letters—from Corrections Commissioner Ramon C. Mafnas, from Corrections director Gregory F. Castro, and from the Office of Personnel Management—citing three different reasons to justify his separation from the department.

Cepeda believed these are forms of harassment and discrimination in many ways.

"It clearly demonstrates that all appointing authorities have communication barriers within the CNMI government that creates liabilities in the future comings," he said.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to obtain comments from Mafnas and Castro.

Cepeda said he does not understand how DOC came to a decision to terminate him.

"The hours that I have contributed to the department will clearly show that I was dedicated to the department, always available for emergency coverage of manpower shortage, regardless of time or day," he said.

Cepeda said there were days that he worked up to 20 hours a day.

"It saddens me to know that my 200 percent dedication to the department did not satisfy the two highest authorities in the department, leading to my wrongful separation from the department," he said.

Cepeda said his termination on the day of his birthday was extremely humiliating and shows that he was targeted.

Furthermore, Cepeda disclosed, he was instructed on a number of occasions to escort detainees and inmates outside the prison without a firearm—a violation of policies and procedures.

Cepeda said that OPM had claimed knowing the reasons for his termination, but then later told him he was separated because he has already reached the maximum days in his provisional appointment status. He said none of the two appointing authorities (Mafnas and Castro) cited this reason in their letters.

According to Cepeda's complaint, a DOC safety and security officer gave him a written reprimand on Nov. 7, 2013, for allegedly violating policies and procedures after he and another officer failed to ask for more officers when they were guarding a pod housing unit that consisted of about 140 detainees and inmates. Under the policy, that housing unit should be managed by more than two officers.

Cepeda said he was just assigned to the unit and the lieutenant should have taken control and called for additional officers. Instead of doing so, Cepeda claimed he was cited for the violation and yet his immediate supervisor was not disciplined.

In another incident, Cepeda said that his supervisor instructed him to write a self-statement alleging unprofessional misconduct by himself and a female corrections officer. The supervisor did not explain to Cepeda the extent of the allegations, but instructed him to simply write what happened when they were at a Female Housing Unit.

Cepeda told the supervisor he will not admit to an unprofessional misconduct allegation when he knows for a fact that it did not happen.

On Dec. 30, 2013, Cepeda was served with another letter labeled "separation of service" as directed by Castro. In Castro's letter, he cited a couple of mistakes that compromised the health, welfare, safety, and security of DOC.

Cepeda's last day to report for duty was Jan. 13, 2014. The effective date of separation was Jan. 14, 2014, his birthday.

On Dec. 30, 2013, Cepeda asked permission from his immediate supervisor to take his annual leave so he could respond to Castro's letter. The supervisor initialed his annual leave request forms, recommending approval. Three days later, he was accused of being absent without leave and was told he should have known that annual leaves must be approved by the department head.

On Jan. 6, 2014, Cepeda responded to the AWOL charge, citing a provision in the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations that states that all annual leave requests must be approved by the employee's division head upon recommendation of such employee's supervisor.

On Jan. 10, 2014, the complainant said, a sergeant came to his residence in Dandan to serve him again with another letter from Mafnas labeled "appointing authority's final decision."

In the letter, Cepeda said, Mafnas told him that the department's budgetary constraints and surrounding circumstances leads him to conclude that it is in the best interest of the CNMI and DOC to separate him from service without cause.

Cepeda said he verified with OPM if his position was budgeted and was told that his position was budgeted because his provisional appointment extension was signed and approved by the Budget Office and Finance secretary.

On March 24, 2014, assistant attorney general Ghassan Harb gave Cepeda a letter of final disposition dated March 20, 2014. He said Harb provided him a third reason for his separation.

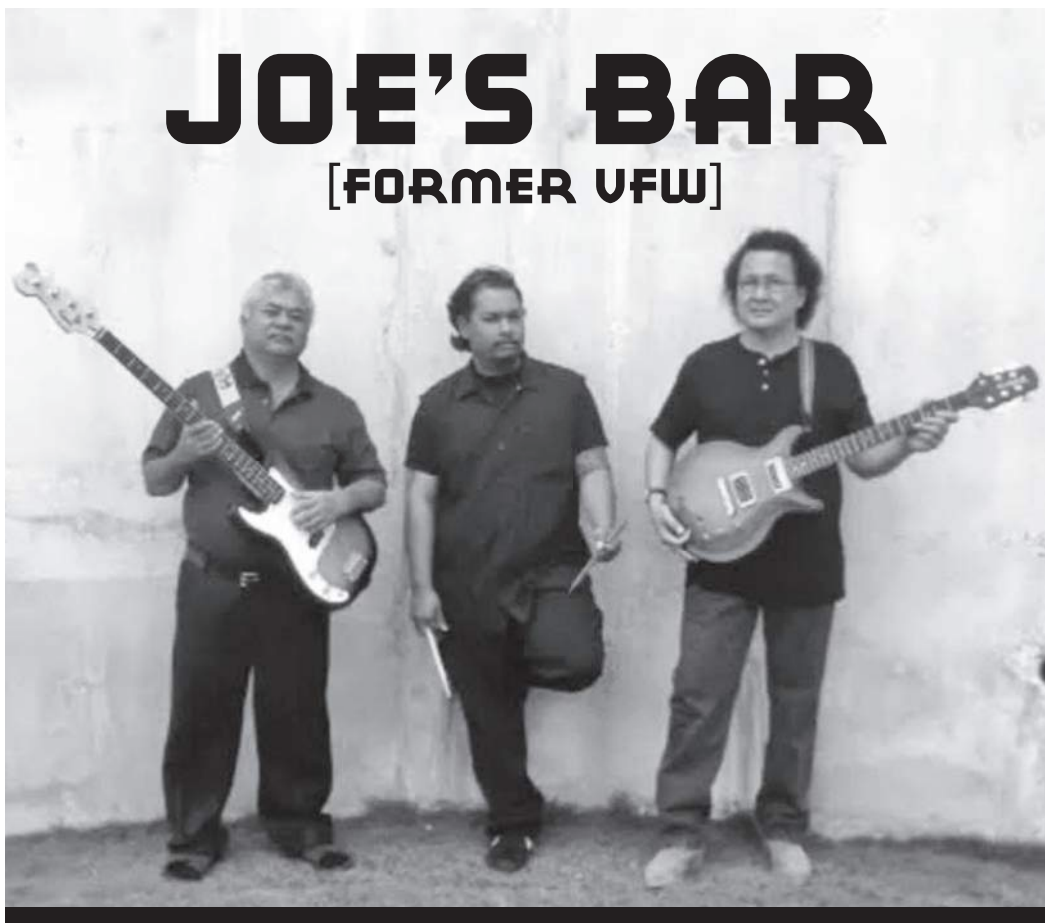
Tourist drowns in Guam

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Authorities in Guam say a 63-year-old tourist has died after a reported drowning.

Guam Fire Department Lt. Edward Artero tells *Pacific Daily News* that they were called about 1:30pm to Ypao Beach. When they arrived, the unnamed man was already on the beach.

Medics performed CPR on the man, both on the beach and en route to the hospital. But a nursing supervisor at Guam Memorial Hospital, Maria Mafnas, says the man was pronounced dead about 2pm.

NEW TVs, Laptops & more
HDTVs 39" $470 to 50" $670
Laptop Intel 6GB RAM, 750GB HD $560
Website: btronics.saipanevo.com
Call or Text: 789-2757

JOE'S BAR
[FORMER VFW]

FEATURING
Black Sands
LIVE
MUSIC OF THE 60'S, 70' AND THE 80'S
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2014 • 9PM-2AM
Beach Road, Garapan (old VFW Post) • 233-5368

Need EXTRA CA$H for a Graduation Gift or Party?
Do you have a car that you no longer need?
If your answer is "Yes", come on over to
DPA CAR MART
and we will buy your vehicle and give you CA$H upfront.
WANTED
Sedans ▪ Pick-up Trucks ▪ Vans or SUVs
Vehicle Year must be from 1997 and UP.
• Inspection and negotiation will take at most 15 minutes.
• If your car is not in running condition, we can meet and do the inspection from their.
• We provide courtesy car or drop off service after transaction.
• We will diligently take care of your car.
VEHICLES FOR SELL
QUALITY • CLEAN IN & OUT • DEPENDABLE VEHICLES
2006 Mazda Miata, 30,235 Mileage, Negotiable $12,800
2005 Nissan Murano SL, 77,443 Mileage, $10,800
2005 Ford Escape, 95,406 Mileage, $8,800
2005 Mazda 3 Hatchback, 96,443 Mileage, $8,800
2008 Mazda 3, 56,937 Mileage, $10,800
1993 Toyota Camry, 198,336 Mileage, $2,800
1997 Mitsubishi Montero LS, 154,125 Mileage, $3,800
2005 Mazda B2300 Extra Cab, 157,117 Mileage, $5,500
2000 Kia Sephia, 87,622 Mileage, $1,800
Price Negotiable • Financing Available
WE ACCEPT TRADE-INS
Call 287-8688 or visit us TODAY!
Business Hours: 9:00AM – 5:00PM (Mon. – Sat.)
Located in San Antonio, formerly Sun Leader Supermarket, across from Royal Crown Insurance.
ATTITUDE Determines QUALITY!

CASINO

From Page 1

tee report and public hearing—was tailored for the investor they met with in Hong Kong.

The two companies that are vying for an exclusive Saipan casino license are Best Sunshine International Ltd. and Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc. Each paid the $1 million nonrefundable application fee on Monday.

Hong Kong-based Best Sunshine International Ltd. is just one of the wholly-owned subsidiaries of First Natural Foods Holdings Ltd. It has not been incorporated in the CNMI nor has it applied for a business license in the CNMI as of yesterday.

Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc., meanwhile, is partly owned by the new owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, the Hong Kong-based Mega Stars Overseas Ltd. It is incorporated and licensed to do business in the CNMI.

Cario Hon, chief executive officer of Mega Stars Overseas, said yesterday that Marianas Stars Entertainment will issue a statement about portions of their plans later on.

At this time, Mega Stars Overseas is still reviewing its additional plans for Tinian, including building a new 1,000-room hotel on Kastiyu, a scenic Tinian area atop Carolinas Plateau, a 36-hole golf course, and a $5 million water park on Tinian.

When it became apparent that the Saipan casino bill would become law, Mega Stars started rethinking some of its plans for Tinian. When the law was signed, Mega Stars officials held meetings in Hong Kong, apparently to redraw plans not only for Tinian but also for Saipan.

Meanwhile, Best Sunshine International's parent company, First Natural Foods Holdings Ltd., figured in a major case in Hong Kong in 2013 and the case remains pending.

First Natural Foods' founder and now former chairman Yeung Chung-lung remains a fugitive almost a year after the Securities and Futures Commission took him to court in April 2013 over an alleged embezzlement of HK$84 million in corporate assets, along with other First Natural Foods executives at the time.

'Fact-finding trips'

Some lawmakers and the governor separately and jointly went to Hong Kong and/or Macau during the late part of 2013 and early 2014.

Torres said he received a letter last week from Esteem Capital, which paid for the trip he joined in, saying that "they're

See CASINO on Page 8

MHS

From Page 1

This is the second time that three students from MHS were awarded the scholarship, which drew over 50,000 applicants this year alone. According to scholarship officials, this was the most competitive year yet and garnered the highest amount of GMS applicants.

The Dolphin scholars—Matthew Lopez, Jill Ann Arada, and Stephanie Xiao—can use the scholarship at any college or university of their choice for 10 years. The scholarship award will cover unmet needs and self-help aid, is renewable for scholars maintaining satisfactory academic progress, and will also provide graduate school funding in the areas of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health, or science.

"We are very proud and excited. Their achievements make us stand strong as a school," said school counselor Janice Muña in an interview.

Muña, who assisted the scholars in the application process, said this achievement is a testament to the access students have to the resources and people who help them apply for the scholarships.

She said the scholarship "helps them become more giving to the community."

"They are part of the community and they constantly give. As a school we are constantly in support of them," she added.

MHS students Gilda Ogarro, Marjorie Ann Cuerdo, and Yu June Lee were awarded the scholarship last year.

Arada said she is honored and humbled to have been selected as a 2014 GMS scholar.

"I feel very thankful to be a part of the 1,000 scholars. Words can't express how I feel about receiving such a great honor. I also feel very thankful [to] the people who helped me along the way. My parents, nominator, recommender, and all the people who believed and motivated me were my sources of inspiration," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Receiving the award means a great victory for the CNMI "because it shows that people don't have to be the valedictorian with the highest grades to achieve their dreams," she added.

Arada said she has always had a burning passion for biology and engineering and will take full advantage of the scholarship to become a doctor in her field.

The 18-year-old student plans to major in biomedical engineering at the Indiana Institute of Technology in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

See MHS on Page 8

JURY

From Page 1

while a male voice that witnesses identified as Crisostomo could be heard saying "sorry" and "calm down."

In her closing arguments, defense attorney Janet H. King said that Romero's murder remains unsolved and that the prosecution failed to prove its case beyond a reasonable doubt. She urged the jurors to look at all the evidence and come up with only one verdict—not guilty.

The courtroom was jampacked yesterday, filled mostly with lawyers and police officers. The benches behind the prosecution were fully occupied. Romero's younger sister, Estrelita Relata, Godfather's Bar owners Scott Dottino and Ron Biggers, and some of Romero's friends were present. Attorney General Joey San Nicolas also watched the arguments.

Behind the defense's table were Crisostomo's sister, Annie, his other sister and a sister-in-law, some lawyers, and law enforcers.

The jurors will decide the charges of first-degree murder or the lesser included offense of second-degree murder, kidnapping, sexual assault in the first-degree, and robbery.

Camacho will decide the misdemeanor charges of assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

In the government's closing arguments, Brown-Badawy said that Romero was at the wrong place, in the wrong car, at the wrong time.

Because of that, Brown-Badawy said that Romero, a mother of two, was kidnapped, brutally murdered, and robbed by Crisostomo, who was just looking for a victim in the early morning hours of Feb. 5, 2012, in Garapan.

She said the evidence showed that Crisostomo raped Romero, strangled her with a pair of leggings, and discarded her body like garbage to rot in a small room at the abandoned La Fiesta Mall.

Brown-Badawy said Romero could have been anybody else in the community, whether someone's sister, friend, or relative.

"To be at the wrong place at the wrong time is something that anybody is scared of," she said.

Brown-Badawy then played a brief portion of the 911 call, in which Romero could be heard crying and begging to be freed. The prosecutor said the 911 call showed just how terrified Romero was as she begged for her life.

Brown-Badawy said the phone records show that on Feb. 5, 2012, at 2:48 am, Romero called a taxi driver because she wanted to proceed to the house of her boyfriend, Taj Van Buuren, in Chalan Piao.

At 2:55am, the taxi driver called Romero, asking her where she was because he was already there to pick her up. The victim replied that she already got into the taxicab, Brown-Badawy said.

At 2:57am, Romero realized she was in a wrong car, called the taxi driver back, and asked what's his telephone number.

At 2:58:17 Romero called the taxi driver again. It was this call when the driver heard that something happened to Romero in the car. Five minutes later, Romero called 911.

Brown-Badawy said that police officer Sandy Hambros and other police officers searched for Romero at Mariana Resort and in Marpi but could not find her.

Brown-Badawy said that at 6am, Crisostomo, using Alicia Kintaro's cellphone, called Kintaro at her home after dumping the victim's body at La Fiesta, asking her to pick up his sister, Annie, Annie's boyfriend Cheyenne Sablan, and Albert Deleon Guerrero at Piano's Poker in Garapan. Crisostomo reportedly told Kintaro that he could not pick up the three as he was busy.

Brown-Badawy said that Crisostomo was "indeed busy" getting rid of Romero's body at that time.

The phone records show that when the 6am call was made, the originating tower cell was at the Palms Resort, which is right across La Fiesta Mall, according to Brown-Badawy.

On Feb. 7, 2012, Federal Bureau of Investigation agents found Romero's body at La Fiesta Mall.

The prosecutor said that on Feb. 10, 2012, investigators played the 911 call and police detective Roque Camacho, who was just talking with Crisostomo three hours earlier, identified the male voice in the recording as Crisostomo.

Brown-Badawy said that detective Elias Saralu, who also listened to the 911 call, was 100 percent sure the voice was that of Crisostomo, who worked with them for several years as a confidential informant.

Brown-Badawy said that investigators also played the 911 recording for Joanne Castro, who was Crisostomo's common-law wife for 17 years.

She said Castro was disgusted and had goose bumps all over her body after identifying Crisostomo's voice.

The prosecutor urged the jury to look at all the evidence: hair, footprints, DNA, 911 call, and Crisostomo's own words.

Brown-Badawy said that a hair strand recovered from the front passenger side seat of a rental car that Crisostomo was driving between Feb. 4 and 5, 2012, matched Romero's DNA. This tells that Romero was in that car, she said.

She also cited the fibers found in the car that matched the murder weapon—the ligature or leggings, and Romero's zorie or sandals.

On the footprint impression that FBI agents collected from La Fiesta Mall, Brown-Badawy said the tests showed a high level of association between Crisostomo's barefoot prints and the footprint impressions taken from La Fiesta. She said all five footprints that were analyzed matched with Crisostomo's barefoot prints.

Citing DNA evidence, Brown-Badawy said that Crisostomo's semen was found in Romero's vagina. She said that based on FBI forensic examiner Susanna Kehl's calculations, the chance that Crisostomo's DNA would match another Chamorro is one in 960 million. That will take some 22,000 Saipan islands to find Crisostomo's DNA match, she added.

Brown-Badawy said that Romero was clearly raped as shown in the 911 call where she was screaming and begging for her life.

The prosecutor also cited Crisostomo's own words to Department of Corrections Commissioner Ramon C. Mafnas, when he admitted that he was in the same spot in Garapan where Romero was last seen boarding a car.

Brown-Badawy said that Romero's lifeline, a Blackberry Torch cell phone, was never recovered.

Brown-Badawy said all the evidence—hair, fibers, barefoot prints, DNA, his own words he was in the same spot, and that he does not know Romero—show that Crisostomo is guilty beyond reasonable doubt.

In her closing arguments, King said law enforcers ignored the evidence because they already had a target—Crisostomo.

"This murder is still unsolved. That is a tragedy. That is the fact in this case," King said.

She said this is a case where police and the FBI rushed to judgment on one man.

King said it was Joanne Castro, Crisostomo's estranged common-law wife, who gave the police tips about the rental car. She pointed out that Castro later called the Office of the Attorney General, Bridge Capital, and Godfather's Bar to ask about the $22,500 cash reward.

"$22,500 to say that Crisostomo's voice was in that 911 call. It's a reasonable doubt," the lawyer said.

On the footprints findings, King said the expert concluded that there's a high degree of association to Crisostomo but that the barefoot prints cannot be identified as Crisostomo's.

"That is reasonable doubt," she said.

On hair and fibers, King said the FBI physical examiner concluded that the hair type is Mongoloid but cannot say the hair examination constitute personal identification of Romero.

On the fibers, King said the examiner could only say it's similar to the leggings and zories or sandals.

King said that DOC's Mafnas testified that he interviewed Crisostomo at his office, but the conversation was recorded, unknown to the suspect.

King said there was no testimony or evidence showing where Romero and Crisostomo were on Feb. 3 and 4, 2012.

King said that Romero, a mother of two, is not on trial but that she also had a secret life, which includes Van Buuren as her boyfriend.

The lawyer pointed out that a hair sample of Caucasian characteristics was found in Romero's panty liner.

"Did they interview men in preposition ships that come here over the weekend?" King asked.

In her rebuttal, Brown-Badawy said that Crisostomo's sperm was found in Romero's vagina.

On the tire marks that were found of no value to the investigation, Brown-Badawy said this is so because the areas where the tire tracks were found are public places where hundreds of vehicles pass by.

Brown-Badawy said there was no rush to the investigation and that it's not true that only Crisostomo was the target because in fact the first suspects were Van Buuren and the taxi driver.

"All the evidence there linked to the defendant," said the prosecutor, pointing to a table filled with documents and items.

In the conclusion of her rebuttal, Brown-Badawy and Flaherty played the 911 recording again. In it, Romero is crying, begging someone not to hurt her. The male voice could be heard saying, "I'm sorry." Romero then screamed on top of her lungs "Please help me! Help me!"

At this juncture, Romero's sister, who was in the courtroom, started crying. Other people in the courtroom were also seen wiping their tears.

"She was screaming for her life. She was terrified," Brown-Badawy said.

The defense rested its case yesterday morning after Camacho ruled that Dr. David Haymer, who is a professor of cell and molecular biology at the University of Hawaii is not qualified as an expert in forensic DNA analysis.

King did not move for a judgment of acquittal. After the prosecution rested on Tuesday, King also did not move for judgment of acquittal.

King also announced that she is withdrawing her subpoena for Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan (Ind-MP).

Camacho said Haymer is well versed in general DNA, but that the court is not convinced he is qualified as an expert in forensic DNA examination.

The judge noted that Haymer's experience, education, and training mostly dealt with the DNA of bugs and insects.

At a hearing to determine whether he is qualified to be an expert in forensic DNA examinations, Haymer who appeared via Skype, pointed out that he never claimed to be a forensic analyst.

Haymer also stated he does not dispute that Kehl followed FBI protocol and procedures in conducting DNA tests in Romero's case.

Brown-Badawy said there is nothing in Haymer to assist the trier of facts in this case.

CUC, hospital begin talks on $11.9M utility arrears

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Officials and board members of both the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. faced each other in a closed-door meeting yesterday, signaling the start of a potential settlement between the two agencies.

CUC earlier sued the healthcare agency for the latter's utility debt totaling $11.9 million as of March 31 this year. During an April 14 meeting of the CUC board, a decision was made to issue another demand letter to the public hospital and public schools. If the responses are unsatisfactory, CUC plans to file a motion for judgment in court.

Yesterday, CHCC board of trustees vice chair Pete Dela Cruz disclosed in an open session that another meeting with CUC must be scheduled as a follow-up to what was discussed in the closed-door meeting.

"The reason why we're setting a date is because we have to meet with CUC to come to an agreement of how much CHCC can actually pay," said Dela Cruz.

He also disclosed that based on CUC board chair David J. Sablan's comments, the utility agency is amenable to allowing the hospital to arrange a repayment plan that probably would add an extra amount for past arrears—for instance $5,000—on top of the current billing the hospital would pay CUC.

Dela Cruz reminded both interim CEO Esther Muña and interim CFO Cora Ada the importance of providing the board a "credible" cash flow for the organization.

Meantime, trustee Roy Rios pointed out that without the accurate financial records, the board's goal of developing a "deficit reduction plan" is unachievable.

As of March 31, 2014, CUC's aging receivables from PSS, CHCC, and the central government totals over $22 million. Of this amount, the bulk is owed by CHCC, at $11.9 million; $6.4 million is owed by the Public School System; and about $3.6 million is uncollected from the central government.

CUC has a huge underpayment in its books, about $7.3 million from October 2012 through December 2013. This is primarily due to the inability of its largest customers to timely pay its bills.

'Of $5M worth of billings, GMCA collected only $223,000 in one year'

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board of trustees was disappointed yesterday after learning that the agency it contracted to help boost revenue collection was only able to bring in a small percentage of what it was expected to collect for the hospital.

Board trustee Roy Rios could not hide his dismay when told during yesterday's meeting that only about $223,000 has been actually collected by the Guam Marianas Collection Agency for the corporation in 2013.

This amount, it was learned, is only a fraction of the $5 million worth of billings referred to the company last year. The collections data for other years were not immediately available yesterday.

According to interim chief financial officer Cora Ada, she's still waiting for GMCA to provide all the information the board has been asking about the collections.

"They only gave me [the fiscal year] 2013 [data] and I told them [GMCA] that what we need is from the beginning as to how much worth of bills we gave them and how much has been paid, and the pending ones so we can account for those as well," Ada said.

This revelation further disappointed the trustees.

"Why are we asking them for that [record]? We should have that. We should know when they walked out here with any billings that belong to us. We need to know that," said trustee Phillip Mendiola-Long, only to learn that CHCC's own collection office doesn't have the information.

Rios was equally alarmed: "So are you saying that the GMCA just walked in here, picked a bunch of boxes and then left…that's why you can't tell us how much [billing] we gave them? Is that what actually happened?"

During the discussion, it was further disclosed that the $5 million worth of billings referred to GMCA is possibly part of the $18 million receivables in CHCC's books that was earlier reported by management.

Looking at the actual collection, Rios said the total seems to indicate that the company is "not as aggressive" as expected. He asked for a full report on the company's performance since the start, for consideration at the next board meeting.

Board vice chair Pete dela Cruz also expressed concern about the billings' statute of limitations, or until what year certain billings can be collected from debtors.

It was earlier disclosed that GMCA's performance is up for evaluation and plans were bared to open the contract to other agencies.

GMCA does the billing and collection work for the hospital. It uses its own financial system and only gets paid when it actually collects money for the hospital. GMCA's contract provides a 25-percent fee for what it collects and a 10-percent fee for billing works. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Pacific atolls resilient to rising seas—study

By MICHAEL FIELD
WWW.STUFF.CO.NZ/

Rising sea levels caused by global warming are unlikely to swamp the small atoll nations of the South Pacific, a University of Auckland academic claims.

Writing for the Australian science website Conservation, Professor Paul Kench said new evidence suggested that low-lying coral reef islands would be more resilient to sea-level rise than thought.

Sand and shingle islands lying one to three meters above the current sea level were considered among the most vulnerable places on Earth.

"The new findings suggest that, rather than being passive lumps of rock that will be swamped by rising seas and eroded by storms, the islands are dynamic structures that can move and even grow in response to changing seas," he said.

Kench closely examined how reef islands formed over the past 5,000 years, including Jabat Island in the Marshall Islands. That island was created 5,000 years ago as sea level rose to 1.5 meters above its present level.

Other case studies in the Great Barrier Reef and the Maldives also showed that islands could form under a range of sea-level conditions including rising, falling, and stable.

The Auckland study also looked at how islands physically changed over the past 60 to 100 years, including areas where the sea level has been rising at more than two millimeters per year for the past five decades.

In Tuvalu's Funafuti Atoll the researchers found most of the islands either remained stable in size or grew larger, in spite of rising sea levels.

"All of this shows that reef islands are able to grow under current climate conditions."

The findings suggested coral islands were very dynamic landforms that adjust their shape and position on reef surfaces over decades, Kench said.

"Low-lying islands are built by the action of waves and currents, which deposit sand and gravel at the shoreline." In the process islands can change their shape and migrate across reef surfaces.

"Our results suggest that islands can grow upwards when waves wash over them during storms or tsunami, depositing sand in the process," he said.

"This suggests that islands may be able to withstand rising sea levels and increased storminess—although life on those islands may be very different to today."

He said on the face of it the findings ere potentially good news for Pacific communities.

Four added to 2014 MMAC's list of major sponsors

JAYSON CAMACHO

Ambyth Group and their staff present a $1,000 check to the 2014 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee and Commonwealth Cancer Association board members.

The 2014 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee added four more sponsors to its list of major sponsors yesterday morning.

McDonald's Saipan, Ambyth Group, Precision Medical Imaging, and Saint Michael's Medical Response have all signed on as major sponsors of the 2014 MMAC by donating $1,000 each.

Manny Borja, the 2014 MMAC overall committee chair, said the money will be used for the Commonwealth Cancer Association's education and outreach programs. It will also go to activities that foster CCA's mission of giving hope "such as every month there are survivor meetings; they meet and talk to each other and form a network where we can help each other."

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu said they have been donating gift certificates and other forms of donation to the MMAC for many years.

"This year we decided to donate $1,000 and it's for them to use for cancer victims," Ayuyu said.

Ayuyu's son, Joe Ayuyu Jr., said it is a good cause to donate for. "We'd like to thank the family of the CCA for being here and look forward to working with them."

Ambyth Group's donation is their first time to support the MMAC.

"Were very happy that it's their first time to become major sponsors for the MMAC and we look forward to working with them," Borja said.

Precision Medical Imaging, a medical company in the process of making a new medical center here in the CNMI, also got onboard this year's MMAC with a $1,000 donation. It is set to hold a grand opening for its new medical center in the next few weeks.

Joining Precision Medical Imaging in supporting MMAC is Saint Michael's Medical Response, which also put in $1,000.

Precision and Saint Michael's president Joseph Santos was pleased to be a sponsor of this year's MMAC.

"Saint Michael's has been donating to the MMAC since the day we opened our doors back in 2008 and up 'til now we still donate. For Precision, we thought of becoming a sponsor as well because we're in line with medical imaging. We will provide diagnostic imaging services to the community soon, and our brand new CT scanner will hopefully be able to detect cancer sooner and the sooner it is detected the sooner the intervention can start," Santos said.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community, and its really a no-brainer to donate to the MMAC because it's for a good cause," he added.

Borja said this is Precision's first time to become a major sponsor "and we're very happy to have them onboard and Saint Michael's as well since they have been contributors to the MMAC for awhile now."

This year's MMAC title sponsors are Bank of Guam, Delta Air Lines, DFS Saipan, Ltd., GPPC, Island Apparel, IT&E, Joeten Daidai Foundation, *Marianas Variety*, Sorensen Media Group, and Take Care/FHP. Its major sponsors are Brabu Pharmacy, Docomo Pacific, First Hawaiian Bank, IP&E, McDonald's of Saipan, Precision Medical Imaging, Saint Michael's Medical Response, Saipan Mayor's Office, Traders Insurance Co., Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Xerox Corp.

The 2014 MMAC will be held on May 2 and May 3, 2014, from 6pm to 6am at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

For more information, contact Borja at 989-1987, email him at emanuel.borja@gmail.com, or visit CCA website at www.ccamarianas.org. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

JAYSON CAMACHO

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu presents a $1,000 check to members of the 2014 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee and Commonwealth Cancer Association board members at the Middle Road branch of McDonald's.

JAYSON CAMACHO

Saint Michael's medical team and the 2014 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee members and Commonwealth Cancer Association board members pose in front of the medical team's ambulance.

JAYSON CAMACHO

Precision Medical Imaging staff and the 2014 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee and Commonwealth Cancer Association board members pose in front of Precision's new Siemens CT scanner on Middle Road.

Mendiola wins 2014 NMI's Support Staff of the Year

» Lubao, Guiao named Trades and Maintenance awardees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A long-time employee of San Vicente Elementary School was presented yesterday with the 2014 CNMI-PSS Support Staff of the Year award, besting other contenders from public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Donald M. San Nicolas was bestowed the overall honor during yesterday's celebration of the PSS Administrative Professional Day at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

San Nicolas, who has been with the system for 14 years, is SVES' school registrar and administrative assistant. Prior to joining SVES, he was at Saipan Southern High School for seven years and was recognized twice as the school's support staff of the year in 2004 and 2007.

San Nicolas joined SVES in 2009 and was bestowed the same recognition three years in a row. This year marks the first time San Nicolas won the overall title.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the awarding rites yesterday, San Nicolas expressed appreciation for the continued trust and confidence of his colleagues. He said the fulfillment he gets everyday from serving the school staff and students is incomparable.

"My job is both fulfilling and rewarding. I guess it's my calling to be of service to our schoolchildren. I am happy that I am part of the PSS family," he said.

Despite the many challenges in his work, this five-time awardee is committed to doing his task efficiently and properly to meet expectations.

SVES principal Yvonne R. Pangelinan said the honor bestowed on San Nicolas is no big surprise. She described him as someone who is on top of his game and is deserving of the recognition.

In the same celebration yesterday, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan and Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero named Delfin Lubao and Hilario Guiao as co-winners of this year's overall Trades and Maintenance of the Year award.

Lubao is the trade maintenance staff at William S. Reyes Elementary School and has been serving the school for 21 years now. This is his fifth time to be selected as the school's trade and maintenance awardee and his first to get the overall honor.

Guiao is the building maintenance staff at Saipan Southern High School for 13 years now. He is the school's awardee for the same category in 2004, 2011, and 2014, and his first time to get the overall award.

Backbone of PSS

Sablan and Guerrero lauded the contributions of the system's support staff, who they said are the "real backbone" of the school district.

"PSS and the board can't thank you enough for all the work you've done and continue doing for the system. Sometimes we overlook the admin staff, but really, we depend on you and PSS can't function without you guys," Guerrero told the crowd yesterday.

Each year, PSS brings together its administrative professional support team in one occasion to build collegiality and update them on issues affecting them as the system's frontliners.

For this year's awardees, Sablan had nothing but good words to describe San Nicolas, Lubao, and Guiao who are all dedicated and committed to serving the system.

Yesterday's celebration was also highlighted by discussions about legal issues in the workforce given by PSS legal counsels Adam Hardwicke and Tiberius Mocanu. Accreditation updates were also tackled, as presented by accreditation committee chair and WSR principal Naomi Nishimura.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

San Vicente Elementary School's Donald M. San Nicolas, center, is hailed as the 2014 CNMI PSS Support Staff of the Year during yesterday's PSS Administrative Professional Day celebration at Pacific Islands Club Saipan. Joining the overall awardee in the group photo are Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero, and SVES principal Yvonne R. Pangelinan.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

This year's overall Trades and Maintenance Award is bestowed on WSR's Delfin Lubao and SSHS' Hilario Guiao.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happiest first birthday to our sunshine, Jonoah Zeke Polig Santos! A whole wonderful year spent with you and we couldn't have asked for more! Wishing you a happy birthday and many more to come! We love you way past forever, my son! Greetings come from Mommy, Daddy, and the whole family!

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on
Thursday, May 8th, 2014 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,
Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan
(Tel: 234-9661 ● Fax: 234-9666 ● e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of April 3rd, 2014 minutes
5. Public Comments *(not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)*

B. Public Hearings
1. Conditional Use Application #2014-1106: H.S. Lee Construction is proposing to construct a 4-storey hotel with 60 rooms on TR 21073 and TR 21074 on Beach Road, Garapan. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This area is located north of Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center, and across from I Love Saipan building. It is zoned as Tourist Resort.

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business.
1. Update on Nuisance Abatement & Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2013, authored by Representative Larry I. Deleon Guerrero, 18th CNMI Legislature

E. New Business
1. Election of Board Treasurer
2. Office operations report

F. Executive (Closed) Session.

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

H.S. Lee Construction

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. H.S. Lee Construction is proposing to construct a 4-storey hotel with 60 rooms on TR 21073 and TR 21074 on Beach Road, Garapan. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This area is located north of Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center, and across from I Love Saipan building. It is zoned as Tourist Resort.

Date: **May 8th, 2014, Thursday**
Time: **5:00 pm**
Place: **Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, May 7th, 2014. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp , via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Where will $2 million casino application fees go?

While the amended Saipan casino law only indicated that any nonrefundable application fee of $1 million for every casino license application is reserved for the operation, personnel, and all other expenses of the Commonwealth Casino Regulatory Commission for the first year, Gov. Eloy S. Inos gave specific possible uses of the total $2 million the government received from two applicants.

The governor said portions of it will go toward the investigation and review process, along with organizational costs for the commission, the drafting of regulations, and the training of enforcement personnel, among other things.

Inos said the government will hire an investigator with expertise in probing casino operations. The investigator could be based in Hong Kong, Macau, or mainland China.

"We'll hire somebody to do it. Somebody reputable, experienced," the governor said in an interview yesterday.

At this time, however, there is no particular company hired for this job, even as the applicants have until May 5 to deposit $30 million in escrow and the Lottery Commission has until June 19 to approve or reject the applications.

The $30 million will be the source of funds to restore retirees' deferred 25-percent pension.

The governor was scheduled to meet with members of the Lottery Commission yesterday afternoon in preparation for the panel's first formal meeting to review the applications. The Lottery Commission gets to decide which of the applications will be approved for an exclusive license to develop a casino resort on Saipan.

Each of the members of the Lottery Commission—the attorney general, the Finance secretary, the Commerce secretary, and the Public Safety commissioner—won't get additional compensation for being part of the application review process.

The Lottery Commission is separate from the Commonwealth Casino Regulatory Commission, which takes over after a winning investor is picked.

The governor said because of the non-disclosure clause, the government won't be able to share the submitted applications unless the applicants themselves decide to disclose part or whole of it.

The two investor groups that turned in application are Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc. and Best Sunshine International Ltd. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

5 proclamations on saving lives, honoring those who save lives

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saving lives and honoring those who help save lives were the binding theme in five proclamations that Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed before hundreds of law enforcement officers, emergency medical services personnel, dignitaries, and community members at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe yesterday.

The governor proclaimed May 11 to 17 CNMI Police Week and May 15 Peace Officers' Memorial Day, owing to the tireless efforts of law enforcement agencies and personnel "to protect our citizens, enforce our laws, and keep neighborhoods safe."

"They report for duty knowing full well the dangers they face and the sacrifices they may be called upon to make. On May 11-17, we pay tribute to the thousands of men and women who serve us with extraordinary bravery, and we remember the heroes who have laid down their lives in pursuit of a safer, more just society," Inos said.

Inos also designated May 18 to 24 Emergency Medical Services Week, in recognition of emergency medical services that are a vital public service.

"Access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury," the governor said.

The emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, first responders, educators, and administrators, among others.

The governor also proclaimed May 17 to 23 CNMI Safe Boating Week, raising awareness on the importance of enforcing safe boating habits such as wearing a life jacket when operating or riding in a boat.

"It is a simple task that can save lives," the governor said.

Knowing and obeying navigational rules are also a key, including not drinking alcohol or taking drugs while operating a boat.

Every year, 700 to 800 people in the United States die in boating-related incidents.

In the CNMI, boating safety officers responded to four drowning cases, five near drowning, three stranded swimmers, and one missing diver in 2013.

Inos also proclaimed May 21 Emergency Medical Services for Children Day, recognizing the value and accomplishments of dedicated men and women aiding children in medical emergencies.

A Click It or Ticket Mobilization Campaign for May 1 to June 1 was also proclaimed, raising awareness on the importance of wearing seatbelts while driving or riding motor vehicles.

The governor emphasized that regular seatbelt use is the single most effective way to reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes.

In 2012, seatbelts saved an estimated 12,174 lives. Between 2008 and 2012, the number of lives saved by seatbelts was estimated at 63,000.

Joining the governor in signing the proclamations were Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, Corrections Commissioners Ray Mafnas, and other dignitaries.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is joined by Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, other officials and law enforcement personnel for a group photo after the governor signed five proclamations on saving lives and honoring those who help save lives at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe yesterday.

MHS

From Page 4

Competing in the Real World Design challenge, a high school competition where students work on real world engineering challenges as a team, kindled her interest in the engineering field.

"Combining these two fields brought me to the conclusion that that was the major I want to pursue," she said.

Fellow senior student Stephanie Xiao, who plans on studying international relations at the University of Virginia, expressed similar sentiments. The senior scholar said that receiving the scholarship "means that I can have a bright future to develop my skills and to pursue my dreams."

Xiao, born on Saipan, was raised in China and returned four years ago to complete her high school education. Her dual experience of living in China and the CNMI gave her a sense of knowledge about diverse cultures.

"I want to study other cultures and be involved in them and I want to become a diplomat in the future," she said. When she returned to her birthplace, she did not know any English at all but eventually overcame the language barrier and succeeded academically.

"I hope other students who do not know much English can study hard to learn it. My message to them is that if they know what they want to do, they can do it despite anything," she added.

Lopez said that he could not believe the news when he received it. He said that he worked endlessly on early mornings and late nights to perfect his essays attached to his application to showcase his true self.

"It was definitely a relief that all my hard work paid off. This was God's leading," he said.

He told *Saipan Tribune* that the financial aspect of college was one of the biggest hindrances he was concerned about after graduating from MHS this year. "I did not know how I would be able to afford tuition. When I heard about the scholarship in my sophomore year from previous scholars, I knew that this was the opportunity to make my dreams become a reality."

Lopez plans to major in biochemistry or pre-med while taking nursing at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee.

He aspires to become a pediatrician and plans to return to Saipan to help those struggling with diabetes, obesity, and heart disease by establishing his own clinic.

Lopez urges fellow Saipan youth never to give up on their dreams.

"I want to encourage the youth to never stop believing in themselves and to grab every opportunity whenever it is available. They may never expect what the end-result might be after working hard to achieve your goals," he said.

CASINO

From Page 4

not able to participate."

Esteem Capital recently partnered with the China-Australia Entrepreneurs Association Inc. and Zelong Group to invest $5 billion in a casino resort in Australia.

"I did receive a letter last week [from Esteem], informing the Senate, thanking us for giving the opportunity to see at least the integrated resort but they will not be able to participate in the bidding that just took place, the deadline on Monday. So the two companies that bid had no knowledge of, they are not the company that we met in Hong Kong," Torres said at the signing of five proclamations yesterday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Torres said the senators that went with him were Hocog, Sen. Frank Borja (Ind-Tinian), and Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian).

Separate trips also included House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), main author of the Saipan casino bill that became law.

The governor, for his part, said he also "didn't see any of the names pop up."

Inos said he has yet to see the application packets filed by Best Sunshine International Ltd. and Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc.

"There are only two applications. One is Sunshine, I don't know who these folks are, and Marianas Stars, I don't know who these folks are. I haven't seen the application. I haven't seen the submittal," he said.

A few hours after the interview, the governor was set to meet with members of the Lottery Commission for a preparatory meeting as the panel is expected to begin reviewing the applications.

Inos also said he was hoping that Korean investors would also submit an application, "but they never showed up."

Torres reiterated that he was hoping there would be three to four Saipan casino applicants, but was happy that there are at least two, which will promote competition.

Hocog, in an interview yesterday afternoon at a GOP road waving in Precinct 1, said the names of the two Saipan casino applicants are not the names of the groups that invited them to Hong Kong.

Sen. Frank Cruz, for his part, said neither of the two applicants was the company that they met with on their trip.

'No bearing on review'

The Senate president also said they turned in their travel authorization report with the Department of Finance, along with the letter of invitation from the company.

He said this was no different from the trips offered and paid for by other investors, such as when some other lawmakers flew to China months ago for "fact-finding" missions.

Torres said senators are not part of any decision-making in the casino license application process. The Lottery Commission decides the winning applicant.

First Natural Foods/Best Sunshine directors made an announcement in February—even before the Saipan casino bill passed—about discussing tourism and gaming business with "certain parties."

On April 15, just days before the deadline to turn in Saipan casino applications, First Natural Foods announced a proposal to change its name to "Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd." to provide a better identification for the company as it further diversifies its business.

The next step is for the deposit of $30 million in escrow by May 5, and the Lottery Commission's approval or denial of the applications by June 19.

The CNMI government is relying on the $30 million to restore retirees' deferred 25-percent pension, as the governor promised and as stated in the amended Saipan casino law.

This comes seven years after Saipan voters rejected for the second time a casino question on the ballot. Casino gaming used to be legal only on Tinian and Rota.

An investor granted a license to exclusively operate a casino on Saipan is required to build a hotel-resort with at least 2,000 rooms and an initial investment of $2 billion.

Guam utility forum highlights move toward 'green' energy

In about seven years or between now and 2021, the people of Guam will begin realizing an economic stimulus in the range of $3 billion as the Guam Power Authority's Integrated Resources Strategic Plan moves to the implementation level of constructing generation units and acquire the gas capability in 2021. This is according to Joaquin "Kin" C. Flores, P.E., general manager, Guam Power Authority, at his opening remarks during the GPA Integrated Resources Plan Forum at the Hyatt Regency Guam on Monday, April 14, 2014.

The Guam Integrated Resource Plan of 2012 outlines fuel diversification strategies of solar energy, liquid natural gas or LNG, wind, geothermal, biomass, and ocean thermal energy conversion. According to GPA, Guam began construction of photovoltaic solar energy in Dandan, Guam, for a 25-megawatt energy source while a wind turbine energy source for 10 MW is also in the works. GPA also acknowledges the viability of LNG as much cheaper, highly available, cleaner than diesel fossil fuel and in global demand. Asian countries alone are at 74 percent dependent LNG imports. Japan's LNG dependence is at 35 percent and Korea's is at 15 percent and increasing. Guam projects to realize a transformation in its energy production in 2021-2022 to benefit the economy, full compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency clean air mandates, rates stabilization, dual fired generation units (diesel and LNG), and complements from alternative renewable energy sources. The EPA has been forcing U.S. mainland states and territories to use cleaner and greener electricity and has pushed for stringent clean environment enforcement mandates.

Guam policymakers realized the importance of green energy as it relates to substantial economic savings to ratepayers. Guam Public Law 74-32 of November 2013 mandates the 40 public school system to install photovoltaic solar panel systems to realize saving to the tune of $4 million per annum. The University of Guam has stepped up to the plate, converting to solar systems that they hope to realize savings up to $6,000 per month. GPA has currently net-metered 127 customers of renewable source and projects to foresee about 70 megawatts net-metering by year 2020. Hawaii Electric in Hawaii began net-metering in 2005 (1.6MW) and as of year 2012 is now at 171 MW grid integration.

Gov. Eddie Calvo voiced his support for a call to stabilize electricity costs for the people of Guam during his opening remarks at the GPA Integrated Resource Plan Forum, on Monday, April 14, 2014.

Approximately 200 individuals participated in the forum, including investors, consultants, contractors, policymakers from Guam and the CNMI, and guests from U.S. mainland, Hawaii, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. ***(PR)***

Eight tourists treated after Tumon accident

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—Eight tourists were treated and released at Guam Memorial Hospital Tuesday afternoon after a Micronesian Hospitality Inc. Tour Bus rear-ended a Real World Diving van in front of the Sand Castle in Tumon just before noon.

GMH Nursing Supervisor Cely Mangrobang told PNC that eight patients were brought to the emergency room. One of the patients is an infant, one is a toddler and six are adults, Mangrobang said. The patients were all discharged by 4pm, according to Mangrobang. Guam Police Department spokesman A.J. Balajadia said three patients were also taken to Naval Hospital. Balajadia said the injuries were not serious but the patients were taken to Naval Hospital because GMH was overwhelmed.

Balajadia said the accident occurred after a taxi pulled out in front of the van causing the driver of the van to hit the brakes, which then resulted in the tour bus rear-ending the van. The bus driver was cited for not allowing a safe following distance, according to Balajadia.

The Guam Fire Department and Guam Police Department responded to the scene with some assistance from Guam Medical Transport.

Two FSM fiduciaries earn AIF designation

BRIDGEVILLE, Pennsylvania—Gillian Doone, chairman of the board of trustees of the FSM Social Security Administration, and Vincent Tafileluw, vice chairman of the board of trustees, FSM Social Security Administration, have been awarded the Accredited Investment Fiduciary, or AIF, designation from the Center for Fiduciary Studies, the standards-setting body for fi360. The AIF designation signifies specialized knowledge of fiduciary responsibility and the ability to implement policies and procedures that meet a defined standard of care.

Tafileluw

The designation is the culmination of a rigorous training program that includes a comprehensive, closed-book final examination under the supervision of a proctor, and agreement to abide by the AIF Code of Ethics. On an ongoing basis, designees are required to complete continuing education to maintain the AIF designation.

Doone and Tafileluw attended the third Asia-based Fi360 training, which was sponsored by the Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies, and held at APAFS's Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference in Manila. The training was attended by 35 individuals from throughout Micronesia and the Philippines.

Fi360 will be holding the next Accredited Investment Fiduciary training immediately prior to the 14th Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference in Manila Philippines, in November 2014.

Gerard Cruz, APAFS chairman, said, "We are excited about hosting this prestigious, and badly needed, fiduciary training certification course once again. The response to the first course was truly overwhelming. Demand is already high for this year's training, and as we can only accommodate 35 participants, I would encourage interested individuals to email us immediately at executivedirector@apafs.org."

Fi360, based near Pittsburgh, Pa., is the first full-time training and research facility for fiduciaries, and conducts training programs at universities throughout the United States and abroad. As part of fi360, the Center confers the AIF designation as well the Fiduciary Essentials Certificate. The Accredited Investment Fiduciary Analyst designation is offered to those choosing to pursue a higher level of knowledge. AIFA designees are the only recognized professionals trained to perform fiduciary assessments, which measure how well investment professionals are fulfilling the fiduciary duties required of them by the applicable investment legislation, case law, and regulatory opinion letters. ***(APAFS)***

PARENTS SUMMIT RAYNARD TRAVILLA/ NMC

Parents of Saipan Southern High School seniors listen to the student panel discussion during Monday night's NMC Parents Summit held at the Charley's Cabaret at Pacific Islands Club. The next Parent Summit will be held tonight, April 24, for parents of Kagman High School at Aqua Resort Club. All Parent Summits will be held from 5pm to 7:30pm. Light refreshments will be served. Visit www.marianas.edu for more information on the other dates and locations for the summit.

TINIAN VISIT CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maj. Gen. Juan G. Ayala of the U.S. Marine Corps, center, is joined by Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, Sgt. Maj. John P. Ploskonka, Col. P. J. Zimmerman, and Capt. Halligan at the North Field National Historic Landmark during his visit to the island on April 16. Ayala is currently the commanding officer of Marine Corps Installations Command.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIV, Issue No. 81

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Obama moves to stress the durability of US Pacific role

When President Barack Obama scrubbed an October trip to Asia to attend to the government shutdown in Washington, Asian leaders worried that it meant the United States lacked sufficient interest in the region to remain a powerful presence. This week, Obama will finally make the trip, but it may not be enough to reassure allies and others.

Why not? Two obvious reasons. One is Russia's annexation of Crimea and its aggressive activities in eastern Ukraine, which have focused Washington's attention on how to assure the security of Europe. The fear is that this new threat will divert American attention and resources to the task of bolstering NATO and containing Russia, at the expense of its Pacific role.

Another is that the administration trumpeted its intent to make Asia a higher priority—the Asia pivot—but has repeatedly disappointed. In 2011, reported Peter Nicholas and Christi Parsons in the *Chicago Tribune*, "U.S. foreign policy revolves around a single idea: With U.S. involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan coming to a close, Washington is focusing on the fast-growing Pacific region to curb the influence of China." But the world has had a way of preventing any "single idea" from enjoying a monopoly on the U.S. global agenda.

Afghanistan, Iran, Syria, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict have all demanded their share of the spotlight. Ukraine is the latest crisis to preoccupy the president and his advisers. Cuts in the defense budget mean the U.S. will have fewer military assets to bring to bear in the world. So Asian allies figure they're bound to get shortchanged.

That doesn't have to be the case. The U.S. has been the undisputed dominant naval power in Asia since World War II, while China only recently unveiled its first aircraft carrier—a refurbished used vessel with limited capabilities. The defense cuts, if they stick, are likely to come mostly from shrinking the Army, on the assumption that Iraq-style nation building is a thing of the past.

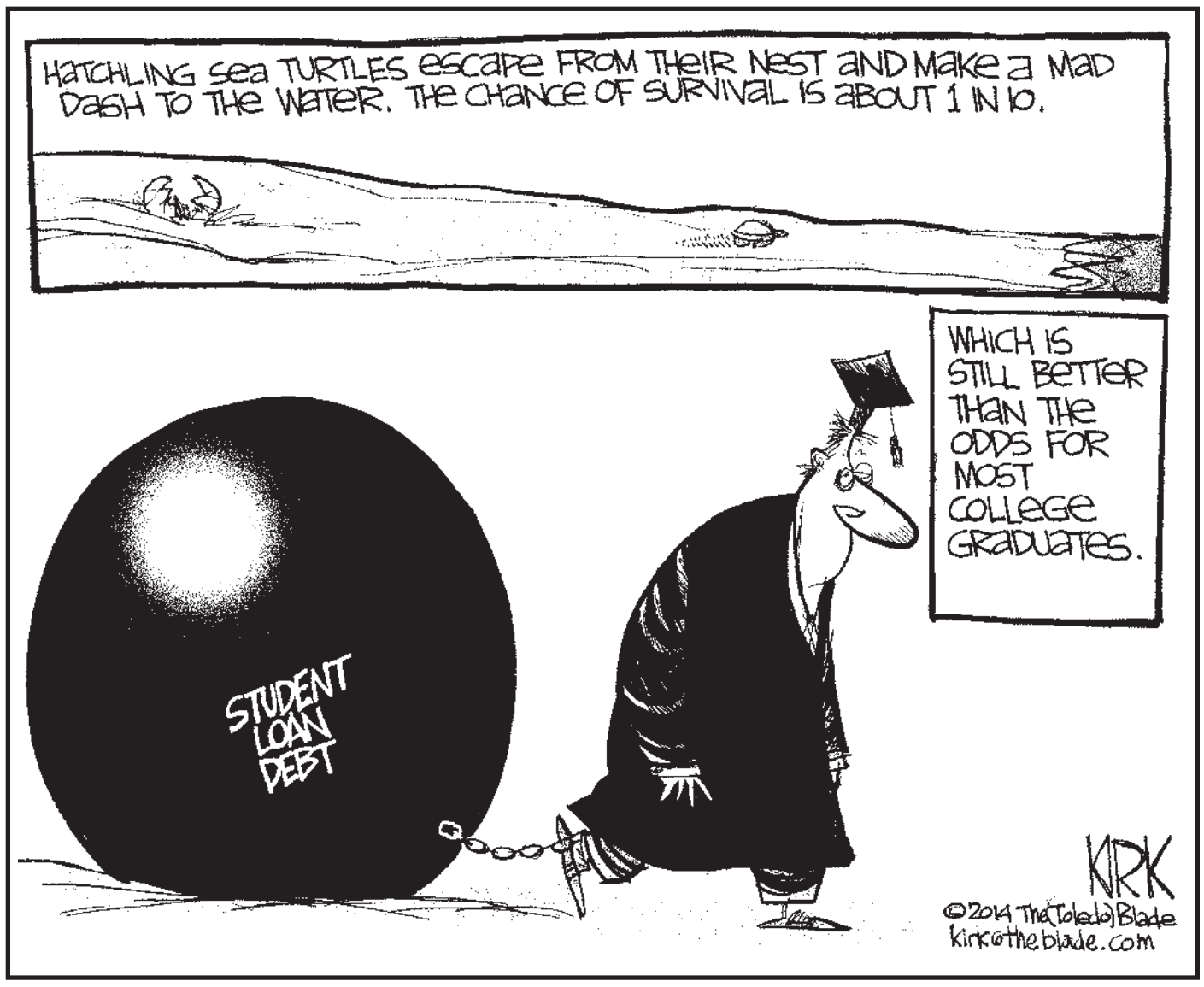
The end of the Iraq engagement and the drawdown in Afghanistan mean that the American military won't have to do more with less but less with less. Some of the resources—financial, military and diplomatic—that once poured into those two countries can now be devoted to Asia as well as Europe.

The U.S. has proven in the past that it's capable of addressing dangers in both places. The Pacific alliances were established in the same era that NATO came into being. We fought wars in Korea and Vietnam while facing down the Soviet threat in Europe. We're a global power, with the means to act in more than one place at a time.

The events in Ukraine don't diminish the importance of maintaining peace and stability in Asia; they underline it. Nor does Washington's failure to use military force in this instance mean it would react similarly if China attacked one of our many Asian allies. We had no treaty commitment to protect Ukraine—but we do with many of China's neighbors. Beijing's aggressive posture, meanwhile, has pushed its neighbors toward more cooperation with Washington.

Nor is security the only item on the board. The administration also recognizes the importance of commerce with a region

See OBAMA on Next Page


HATCHLING SEA TURTLES ESCAPE FROM THEIR NEST AND MAKE A MAD DASH TO THE WATER. THE CHANCE OF SURVIVAL IS ABOUT 1 IN 10.
STUDENT LOAN DEBT
WHICH IS STILL BETTER THAN THE ODDS FOR MOST COLLEGE GRADUATES.
KIRK
©2014 The Toledo Blade
kirk@theblade.com

Aloha Medical Mission in Tuguegarao

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

Last February, I wrote of the Aloha Medical Mission's work in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, not necessarily to praise my brother who organized it and his colleague's commendable efforts, nor focus on the apparent need for medical attention by many in Pea Eye, as it is to highlight the work of volunteers being in a country that derived its national anthem from the "March of the Volunteers."

I intended to be in Tuguegarao while the AMM was conducted. I do not have any medical skills *("He aborted from a pre-med course with a weak stomach for open wounds and bloody sights,"* my brother claims, *"so he concentrated on the nurses")* but knowing the local town, I could have been a useful go-fer. A change in economic circumstance made me cancel the intended drop-in. With my brother's nurse wife, my nurse sister and her dentist husband, and my Rotarian brother orchestrating the whole show, the family was sufficiently represented in the noble effort in our old hometown. My vanity was satisfied.

I thought no more of it, until old Dong Bei turned on one of its vaunted cold days, so I stayed indoors, surfed through cyberspace to escape all the obvious chores waiting to be done. I am also a self-appointed chronicler of events among my siblings, being the "retired" writer in the family, which I failed to do last month, so I set out to rectify my negligence. I checked the AMM in Tuguegarao on the 'Net since I had not heard my siblings share a report.

Online, I first read my nieces' report in her blog titled "Lasing! Lasing!" (She loves her brew.) She is a physical therapist in the Seattle area and she wrote of her remembered experiences, even with a photo of her electrician hubby attending to the Mission's electrical needs. A happy-go-lucky girl growing up, and the runt in her family, we treated her as a bona fide spoiled brat (she relished the role), known for many rebellious infractions her Dad would rather not be reminded of. She was recalling incidents in what she titled the best "working vacation" she ever had, including an unexpected C-section delivery where the parents allowed the volunteers to name the healthy child. She was writing with not a shortage of tears to go along in the telling.

My brother posed with his security retinue and directed logistic traffic, his eldest son roved with a camera, my sister-in-law nursed for one of her former classmates who volunteered as an MD, my brother-in-law dentist improvised to pull teeth without the instruments he uses in his practice in Honolulu (handheld flash lights on the cavity?), with his nurse wife assisting, and it dawned on me that a good percentage of the out-of-the-country volunteers were members of my family. My tear ducts involuntarily joined my niece's cries of joy.

Then there was the slew of local volunteers who joined the visiting contingent in delivering the needed medical attention to the more than a thousand clients that availed of the services, all looking energetic and pleased in their participation. Being a professional volunteer most of my career, I understand the liberating freedom of just deciding to do something just for the heck of it, or, more properly, because one thinks it is worth doing. Not for anyone's sake, but for one's own spirit health and nurture, *just doing it!*

I remember walking the lagoon pathway earlier this year where I once hauled water on my pickup during one of Saipan's droughts to water the plants on the mini-amphitheater near the Japanese tank-on-the-bunker on Beach Road corner Quartermaster's Road. I added my touch with a tree planted between the bunker and the restroom by the creek that was supposed to be solar-powered and water catchment-equipped. My first tree died so a second one replaced it with the help of Japanese Rotarians during a photo-op afternoon. I nursed the tree into maturity. I was curious during my last visit if the tree was still there.

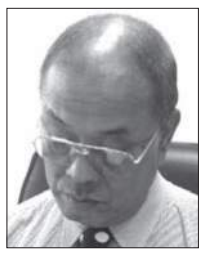
It is still there. It had not grown much as the upper half seem to attract vandals that also keep writing offensive graffiti on the still non-functioning restroom but the tree was still there, the girth of its trunk a few inches stouter than before. The value of the tree is not the negligible absorption of the street traffic's carbon monoxide, or its releasing oxygen into the atmosphere. It is valuable for people like me, and perhaps the Japanese Rotarians if they ever returned, to revisit, as a symbol and extension of one's expenditure.

In like manner, the impoverished clients served at AMM Tuguegarao might be grateful for the attention they received at no cost to them as materials and medicine were donated from elsewhere, but the experience of those involved in the five days of service was evidently priceless. My brother's photography captured a contagious depiction of the mission (visit www.alexvergaraphotography.com). Or, just Google the title of this column, and if you chance on my niece's blog, make sure to have a box of tissues within reach!

Afterwards, go to Red Cross. I am sure John Hirsh will gladly tell you where to go!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Haye `in represesenta?



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

'Nai pot dos besis i botadot Saipan ha punu` ma-establesen casino guine, hafa gi este na disision publiku ti makomprende ni membron lehislatura ni umapprueba disision kontra dinisehan i tautau?

Klaru na tai respetu i lehislatura yan administrasion gi un` asuntu ni i publiku mismu chumule` yan dumespone pot tai inañgoghu gi representanten niha gi hegsu` I Deni`.

Este na malabida yan maladisision siempre tana` klaru pot uttimu besis pa`gu na Nobiembre. Nahoñg na insuttu kontra i publiku ni dumesponi dibuenamente haf` sentimentoña.

Guaha man-mama` sabiu gi mañan gueku na kuestion niha: Ya hafa otru `nai siña ma-adelanta kahan iya Marianas pot obligasion? Ti mapot ta oppe: Ke lau hafa bidadamu na deste tiempu maigo` hau gi fatachoñgmu? Isau i publiku na hagas hau losus gi siyamu?

Anog klaru na i asuntu makonsidera ni tropan gueku. Taigue i grupon man-fahagot yan tomtum. Puru inetnon fanihi ni mapgao gi hegsu` sabana. Kontodu mañan niha prefektu fanihi!

Che`chu` Muron

Adahe na che`chu` tailaye mahasñgon mayute` gi un` banda disposision i tautau pot casino. Ha pañgon kuestion gi konsensia-ta: haf` na taiguine man-tai respetun niha gi disision i tautau?

Kau pot mana` fan pasehu para Hong Kong, China, Singapore yan Filipinas na ensegidas man-mafahan konsensian niha? Kau pot mana` fan lamlam kakagoñg niha Manila na mayute` interes i publiku? Kao tai guenau baratun konsensian niha?

Sumen na`pinite i mampos na`tatah na eskalera `nai madisidi un` asuntu ni siempre tumulaika modun linala`ta. Kau pot este na gotpe ma-apprueba gi dos guma` lehislatura? Kau este mina` mafitma lai gi halom homhum?

Afañielos, pot guaha siha nasion gi oriya ni mas man-fuetsudu fiñkas (koble) niha ni umatetutuye adelanton casino gi lugat niha mina` mauleg ta atan hafa na patte gi metkau para hita. Gi 2016 na sakan, siempre Japon ha establese industriña casino ya ha tagam 26 miyon ni man-riku na tautauña.

Otru nasion tat kumu Macau, South Korea, Singapore, yan Filipinas sige machoneg mas mauleg na setbisiu para u esgaihon i mas man-riku guatu gi lugat niha. Manu gi halom este na kompitensia fuetsan fiñkas `nau hulat Saipan? Dispues, esta guaha estados siha pumadese ti nahoñg mapromesa na rinikohen fondun casino `nai mismu bisinu umestable casinon niha mismu.

Uttimoña, hita mismu sumupotta este na industria sa` ti humalom i mapromesa na fondu. Chatpagu para tali`e na i mamoble mana fan hugando ya ginen kalaguag niha `nai mau`udai i industrian casino guine. Mauleg este mohon na karera?

Asun foggun natibu

`An mamakat un` na`mansu konsensiamu haf` tinatemu gi plaset hinimidde, totne i guafen kusinan sanhiyoñg `sino fanongge fugera.

I pau ennau na asu siña umesgaihon hau tatte guihe na tiempu `nai motmut sensian komunida gi humidde na pineble. Ta usune haf` guinahata sin tana tailaye i bisinu.

Mañge` na bisitasion i tuma`lu hau tatte guihe na patte gi ha`animu `nai pinañgon sensian añklan espirituat ni kulan malagon ñaihon. I pau asu i hagas señat preparasion amotsan oga`an, taloa`ne yan fina` sena. Oppan gi señgsoñg diariu ni chinaflulun ni asun kusina.

Palabran gi ha`anita

`Nos kuantos palabra mauleg ta ta`lun bumisita: Inañgoghu, dinida, hineñgge, subetbia yan inasi`i. Pega inañgohomu gi Nanalibreta, muñga duda gi taihinekong na nina` siñaña, hoñgge haf` fino`ña; na subetbiu hau umatisa hineñggemu; gi birada asi`i i prohimumu piot i mas un` pega kumu enemigumu.

Malofanyu` gi este na chalan ya esta tihoñgiyon i siñienten kulan mahatsa hulu` gi lañget `nai hu asi`i un` tautau ni humasñgune-yu`. Hu pega gi kanai i Saina sa` guiya man-dispoponi. Diberas, ni para ositan haf` nina` siñaña. Kulanyu` un` granum unai gi halom miyon galon na tañken hanom. Pinasensia gi tasin hinimidde i propiu meskla gi diariu na hinanau-ta.

■■■

Chetton matan un` amiguhu yan asaguaña maseha esta machadispone i dos asagua. Buente pot finatoña gi triste na che`chu` familia mina` ti malefayu` nu guiya. Diariu hu hahassu gi tinayuyothu pot gineftauña. Estague` na eskalera `nai un` lili`e haye fiet amigumu.

■■■

Un` amku` lokue` diariu gi tinayuyothu pot hana`e-yu` ayudu guihe na ora `nai ni monayu` ni tatte. Ginen ayuduña `nai hu fahane lahihu lecheña guihe na pueñge. Sessu ha kombidayu` antes de u malañgu yan madispone. Ti apasiyon na ayudu mina` hu hahassu diariu gi hechuran tinayuyot-hu lokue`.

■■■

Magahet na bali mañgonsidera gi otru prohimu-ta piot `nai finagcha`e gai chinatsaga. Ti un` lache eskaleran diberas na chinatsaga kontra banida yan diskuidu. I mefe`na mauleg un` ayuda, i segundu sotta ya u lachok gi halom chubaskun diskuiduña.

Don't let Jeb Bush's moderation confuse you

By JOSE MIGUEL LEYVA
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Jeb Bush's recent compassionate comments on immigration show how far apart he is from the far right of the Republican Party.

At an event at the George H.W. Bush presidential library, the former Florida governor showed sympathy for people who come to the United States illegally. They come here, he said, because mothers and fathers are "worried that their children didn't have food on the table." He added: "They crossed the border because they had no other means to work to be able to provide for their family. Yes, they broke the law, but it's not a felony. It's an act of love. It's an act of commitment to your family."

And he warned: "It shouldn't rile people up."

But many people in the tea party wing of the Republican Party are riled up about immigration, and Republican legislatures in several states have passed harsh anti-immigration laws.

Jeb Bush's outspokenness, and his increasingly obvious interest in running for the presidency, represents an effort to move the Republican Party back toward the middle.

That's not altogether a bad thing for the nation. The far right, which has been such a vocal part of the party in recent years, has pulled many moderates, even Democratic ones, deep into conservative territory. But Bush should not be mistaken for a progressive, by any means, even on issues relating to minorities and other people facing discrimination.

As governor of Florida, he dismantled affirmative action, he displayed a disdain for the victims of homophobia and he expressed a distaste for modern feminism. He also is about as pro-corporate as you can get. For instance, he's a huge proponent of privatizing our public schools.

At the moment, he is tacking in a moderate direction. And his marriage to a Mexican national does give him a real perspective on immigration.

But he might be forced to prove his conservatism to win over the party base eventually, and that would include pushing back against comprehensive immigration reform, which a majority of Latinos favor.

Bush has said he would run a campaign that was "hopeful" and "optimistic." The Republican base seems more prepared to embrace hate and fear, and all of Bush's platitudes aren't likely to change that.

The best we can hope for from Bush, then, is the conservatism of the old status quo.

Jose Miguel Leyva is a writer for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive *magazine.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Credibility and breeding a corrupt government

Joseph A. Sablan of Kagman's claim that I have no credibility was based on nothing but his opinion for his character assignation attempt. My credibility has nothing to do with the empirical facts about what our governor and Legislature has done and failed to do. I guess he is ignorant of the fact that his opinion is not the same opinion that the majority of voters had on the casino in the last polling of the people. Joseph doesn't seem to know that as of the last tally taken, the majority of voters in the CNMI agreed with me, not him, so his claim of no credibility and a few followers is simply ludicrous and obviously maliciously injected. Joseph's rampage was clearly the same old kill-the-messenger attacks with no substance or proof of anything. The only good that will come of his ugly personal attack will be the lessons he and others will get from this reply and my prayers for him.

Joseph had the nerve to say the casino will be the caretaker and lifeblood for Rota, Tinian, and the Northern Islands. There isn't one study or any proof the casino can do what is being promised. Since when did our government start living up to its promises? What are you smoking, Joseph, to believe a promise from Capital Hill? But we know for true from the Colorado and Washington state experiments that the legalization of marijuana will bring in more tourists and more millions than we need. Complaining about our need for cash when it will take a minimum of two to three years before we even start receiving money from the casino as we are only getting the $30 million up front until the casino is built, which is years down the road. The 25 percent will be in jeopardy again before a casino is even built.

Joseph and those supporting a casino are the ones contributing most to the problem by supporting a disrespectful governor and Legislature that has clearly violated the trust and confidence of the people. Joseph and people like him are really helping to breed and even cheer for corruption in our government by supporting their disrespect for the no vote. Everyone knows the governor and Legislature were wrong to force the casino on us so why are so many people supporting something that is clearly disrespectful and wrong? What are you people going to say or do, Joseph, when they disrespect you and they will do it again if we let them get away with disrespecting the people this time.

As for my ferry dream for the CNMI, Joseph, one of the biggest problems we have with our leadership is that virtually none of them is a dreamer. America was founded on dreams, the civil rights movement was driven by dreams, the Commonwealth itself is the result of dreams and there is a plethora of things in the evolution of mankind that are the result of dreams. It is obvious Joseph doesn't know how much a black person can dream as we had to go from being slaves to dreaming of being equal and even becoming President one day. So Joseph's complaint about me dreaming for the CNMI is really a good thing as dreams are often the epic center for change and improvements on Planet Earth. In fact we need our leaders to become dreamers as they have been stuck on casinos for over a decade. Voters are not stupid, Joseph, and could see your miserable attempt to cover up for the administration and the casino supporters.

P.S.: I'm glad retirees will start getting their 25 percent but if they are really smart and want to keep getting the 25 percent, they will help by signing the economic initiative and voting to make sure it passes. The next Legislature can always repeal the casino and we will certainly have the money to refund the $30 million if the economic sunshine initiative is approved by the people.

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

OBAMA

From Page 10

that accounts for 40 percent of the global economy. Negotiations are going on for a trade agreement with the U.S. and 11 other Pacific Rim nations. Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker says more than a quarter of her foreign commercial services officers are in Asia, more than in any other part of the world.

None of the administration's challenges are easy. Hammering out a good trade accord is anything but a sure thing. Countering a stronger and more assertive China will be tricky. North Korea remains the wildest of wild cards. There are limits to the time and energy of American policymakers, who are obliged to respond to immediate emergencies even when they have equally vital long-term work elsewhere.

But those realities are just part of life in a turbulent and perilous world. The United States didn't become the world's only superpower without developing a capacity for coping with multiple challenges at once. It's Obama's task to convince Asians that our capacity and resolve are undiminished.

©2014 Chicago Tribune

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

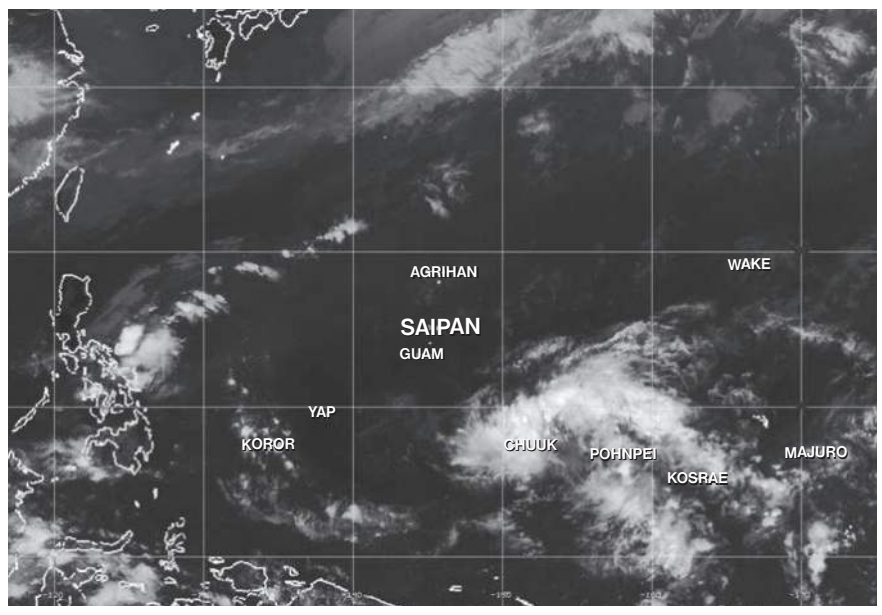
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼78
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲89	▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲85	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲69	▼62
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲80	▼52
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼75
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼73
London	Showers	▲64	▼47
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲75	▼56
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼54
Miami	Sunny	▲85	▼72
New York	Windy	▲60	▼42
Osaka	Sunny	▲74	▼51
Paris	Showers	▲64	▼49
Pusan	Sunny	▲68	▼55
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼54
Salem	Rain	▲56	▼41
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲59	▼50
Seoul	Sunny	▲77	▼49
Tokyo	Sunny	▲69	▼55
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲66	▼47

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An old frontal boundary curves southwestward from 25N146E to beyond 130E at 8N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present along and up to 200 miles northwest of this boundary. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near and south of Koror within 125 miles of a line from 9N134E to 3N136E to 2N142E. A broad circulation is centered southeast of Chuuk at 7N158E. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen across Chuuk and north of Pohnpei within 150 miles of a line from 6N149E to 12N158E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found over Pohnpei and Kosrae within 250 miles of a line from 9N158E to 3N163E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers near Majuro and Butaritari south of a line from 10N180 to 10N173E to 6N166E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:48 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
10:56 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
4:07 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
10:50 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:33 PM
Saturday	5:57 AM	6:33 PM
Sunday	5:56 AM	6:34 PM
Monday	5:55 AM	6:34 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:50 AM	1:55 PM
Friday	2:37 AM	2:52 PM
Saturday	3:23 AM	3:48 PM
Sunday	4:09 AM	4:44 PM
Monday	4:54 AM	5:40 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	6:55pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA5038	7:45pm	8:35pm	2, 6
UA5078	8:10pm	9:00pm	3

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	5:35pm	6:10pm	2, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	6:40pm	7:15pm	2, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11: 05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	10:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5038	5:35pm	7:15pm	2, 6 via Rota
UA5077	6:50pm	7:40pm	3

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	6:55pm	7:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	8:00pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:20pm	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:45am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5039	9:55am	6:25pm	7 via Guam
UA190/5038	9:55am	7:15pm	6 via Rota-Guam
UA190/5077	9:55am	7:40pm	3 via Guam
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA184/5038	10:25pm	7:15pm+1	1 via Rota-Guam
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/5038	11:30pm	7:15pm+1	5 via Rota-Guam

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Business

IRS awards bonuses to 1,100 who owe back taxes

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Internal Revenue Service has paid more than $2.8 million in bonuses to employees with recent disciplinary problems, including $1 million to workers who owed back taxes, a government investigator said Tuesday.

More than 2,800 workers got bonuses despite facing a disciplinary action in the previous year, including 1,150 who owed back taxes, said a report by J. Russell George, the Treasury inspector general for tax administration. The bonuses were awarded from October 2010 through December 2012.

George's report said the bonus program doesn't violate federal regulations, but it's inconsistent with the IRS mission to enforce tax laws.

"These awards are designed to recognize and reward IRS employees for a job well done, and that is appropriate, because the IRS should encourage good performance," George said. "However, while not prohibited, providing awards to employees who have been disciplined for failing to pay federal taxes appears to create a conflict with the IRS's charge of ensuring the integrity of the system of tax administration."

Other examples of misconduct by workers getting bonuses included misusing government credit cards for travel, drug use, violent threats and fraudulently claiming unemployment benefits.

The IRS said it has developed a new policy linking conduct and performance bonuses for executives and senior level employees.

"Even without a formal policy in place over the past four years, the IRS has not issued awards to any executives that were subject to a disciplinary action," the IRS said in a statement. "We are also considering a similar policy for the entire IRS workforce, which would be subject to negotiations with the National Treasury Employees Union."

The IRS had about 100,000 workers during the period under review.

In the 2011 budget year, more than 70,000 IRS workers got cash bonuses totaling $92 million, the report said. In the 2012 budget year, nearly 68,000 workers got cash bonuses totaling $86 million.

The report said the IRS considers prior conduct before awarding permanent pay increases. "However, IRS officials stated that the IRS generally does not consider conduct issues when administering other types of awards," the report said.

AP

This April 13, 2014 file photo shows the headquarters of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in Washington.

GM, lawyers fight over bankruptcy protections

DETROIT (AP)—General Motors Co. and a battalion of trial lawyers are preparing for an epic court fight over whether GM is liable for the sins of its corporate past.

The company is asking a U.S. bankruptcy court to shield it from legal claims for actions that took place before the company's 2009 bankruptcy.

But lawyers who are suing GM say it shouldn't get the usual benefits of bankruptcy protection because it concealed a deadly ignition switch problem when the court was making bankruptcy decisions.

They also say the company's motion is part of a broader strategy to force settlements in dozens of lawsuits alleging the ignition switches caused deaths and injuries.

Late Monday, GM filed a motion in New York asking the court to bar claims that GM small cars lost value because of the ignition switch problem, which has led to the recall of 2.6 million older small cars worldwide. The company has admitted knowing about the problem for more than a decade, yet it failed to start recalling the cars until February to replace the defective switches.

The faulty switches, which GM says have caused at least 13 deaths, can move unexpectedly from the "run" position to "accessory" or "off," shutting down the engine and knocking out power-assisted steering and brakes. If that happens, steering can become difficult and surprised drivers can lose control of their cars and crash. If the engine is off, the air bags won't inflate.

GM's behavior has brought allegations of a cover-up from members of Congress, who earlier this month held hearings on the recall. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the government's road safety watchdog, and the Justice Department also are investigating GM's delayed recall.

The Detroit automaker contends in its motion that under the bankruptcy, which ended on July 10, 2009, assets and liabilities of the old General Motors Inc. were split in two, with good assets sold under court order to "New GM" and bad ones and most liabilities going to the "Old GM," which was left behind. The recalled cars were made and sold by the old company.

Internet TV case: Justices skeptical, concerned

WASHINGTON (AP)—Grappling with fast-changing technology, Supreme Court justices debated Tuesday whether they can protect the copyrights of TV broadcasters to the shows they send out without strangling innovations in the use of the Internet.

The high court heard arguments in a dispute between television broadcasters and Aereo Inc., which takes free television signals from the airwaves and charges subscribers to watch the programs on laptop computers, smartphones and even their large-screen televisions. The case has the potential to bring big changes to the television industry.

There was a good measure of skepticism about Aereo's approach, sometimes leavened with humor. Chief Justice John Roberts declared at one point: "I'm just saying your technological model is based solely on circumventing legal prohibitions that you don't want to comply with, which is fine. I mean, you know, lawyers do that."

But several justices expressed concern that a ruling for the broadcasters could hamper the burgeoning world of cloud computing, which gives users access to a vast online computer network that stores and processes information.

Justice Stephen Breyer said the prospect makes him nervous. "Are we somehow catching other things that would really change life and shouldn't?" Breyer asked.

Paul Clement, representing the broadcasters, tried to assure the court it could draw an appropriate line between Aereo's service and cloud computing generally. People who merely retrieve what they have stored should have no reason to worry, Clement said.

But David Frederick, representing Aereo, said the "cloud computing industry is freaked out about the case" because it sees its $10 billion investment at risk if the court were to hold that anytime music or an image is stored online and then retrieved, the copyright law would be implicated.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Toyota sells 2.58 million vehicles, outselling GM

TOKYO (AP)—Toyota kept its position at the top in global vehicle sales for the first quarter of this year, outpacing rivals General Motors and Volkswagen. Toyota Motor Corp. said Wednesday that it sold 2.583 million vehicles in the January-March period, ahead of Detroit-based GM at 2.42 million and Volkswagen of Germany at 2.4 million. The Japanese automaker's first quarter sales rose by more than 6 percent from the same period the previous year. GM's sales grew 2 percent, while Volkswagen's added nearly 6 percent. Toyota finished first last year with a record 9.98 million vehicles in sales, remaining the top-selling automaker for a second year in a row. General Motors Co. finished second and VW third. Toyota is targeting sales of more than 10 million vehicles this year.

Oil below $102 as US crude supplies seen rising

The price of oil fell 19 cents to 101.56 in Asia on Wednesday as traders awaited weekly data expected to show rising U.S. crude stockpiles. U.S. crude for May delivery closed at $101.75 Tuesday in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, down $1.90 from its close Monday at $103.65. Brent crude, an international benchmark for oil, eased 7 cents to $109.20 on the ICE Futures exchange in London after closing at $109.27. Despite expectations that U.S. supplies may outpace demand, investors worry that fresh sanctions against Russia may disrupt Russian oil and gas exports. Pro-Russian insurgents in eastern Ukraine have occupied government buildings and set up checkpoints in demand of closer ties with Russia. ***(AP)***

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
16,514.37	1,879.55	4,161.46
+65.12	+7.66	0.00
0.40%	0.41%	0.00%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0775	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7523	Philippine Peso	44.61
British Pound	0.5944	Indian Rupee	61.065	Singapore Dollar	1.2577
Canadian Dollar	1.1038	Indonesian Rupiah	11585	South Korean Won	1039.1
Chinese Yuan	6.2467	Japanese Yen	102.5575	Swiss Franc	0.8842
Euro	0.7238	Malaysian Ringgit	3.2705	Taiwan Dollar	30.318
		New Zealand Dollar	1.1635	Thailand Baht	32.39

Customers First TRIPLE J

TRUCKLOAD SALE direct from KMART

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS! • OPEN: Thursday and Friday 11am to 7pm • Saturday 9am to 7pm

Hamilton Beach Large Counter Top Oven with Rottisere
$129.95

Emerson 0.9cu.ft. Microwave
$119.95

Proctor Sliex 12 Cup Coffee Maker
$18.95

Kenmore 15cu.ft. Refrigerator
$599.95

V-tech Single Handset Cordless Phone Black or Red
$29.95

Essential Home Ceramic Table Lamp with shade
$8.95

Beginnings By Sauder TV Stand
$99.95

Seiki 19" LED TV
$169.95

Essential Home Malcom Bonded Leather Sofa
$399.95

Easystitcher Sew Machine
$39.95

Essential Home 4 Tier Closet Shelving
$14.95

Essential Home 30 Pair Shoe Rack
$12.95

Life Time 1/2 Court Portable 44" Basketball Blue Trim
$159.95

Baden Basket Ball
***Now Only* $8.95**

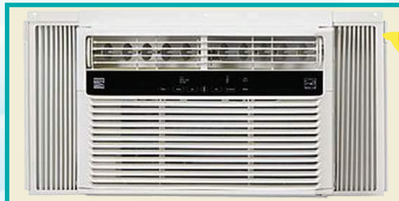
Triple Hit Baseball
***Now Only* $35.95**

Coleman 48qt Cooler
***Now Only* $28.95**

Essential Home Opp Cotton Beach 30x60 Beach Towels
***Now Only* $8.95**

RCA 46" LED HDTV 1080P
***Now Only* $699.95**

Childrens 6ft. Snap Set Pool
***Now Only* $15.95**

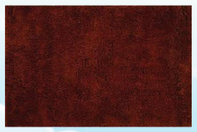


Kenmore 5,200 BTU Window A/C
***Now Only* $199.95**

Childrens Jumbo Beach Bucket
***Now Only* $2.95**

Garden Elite 50ft. Light Duty Hose
***Now Only* $10.95**

Essential Home Assorted Color Washcloth 20 pack
$5.95



Plush Area Rug 3x5 Assorted Pattrens
$15.95

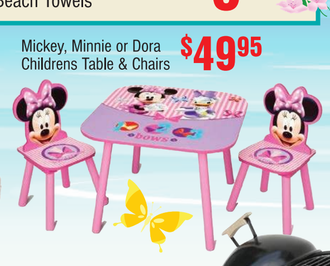
Childrens Jump Rope 7ft.
$1.95

Evolution 20" BoysBike
$129.95

Disney Princess 12" Bicycle
$99.95

Nickelodeon TMNT 12" Bike
$119.95

Island Breeze 28qt Cooler
$24.95



Mickey, Minnie or Dora Childrens Table & Chairs
$49.95

BBQ Pro Round Table Top Gas Grill
$36.95

Bella Blue 40qt Lock Lid Storage Container
$8.95

Step 2 Neat & Tidy Cottage
$199.95

Essential Home Bath Towel
$5.95

Step 2 Push Around Buggy
$55.95

Jac Ro Ethnic Print Beach Towels
$12.95

Just Kids Artist Easel
$33.95

Childrens Adirondack Table
$5.95

Essential Home 15pc. Shower and Bath Rug Set
$19.95

American Plastic 8pc Beach Bucket Set
$9.95

TGF 17x24 Non Skid Rug Assorted Colors
$9.95

Customers First TRIPLE J FIVE STAR WHOLESALE FOODS SAIPAN

Come and visit us at the Triple J Wholesale Store

We reserve the right to limit quantity purchases on all items.

For more info, please call: 322-0430

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Nation

Jet stowaway undetected for hours before departure

HONOLULU (AP)—A 15-year-old stowaway who survived a flight over the Pacific in a jet's wheel well spent seven hours undetected in what is supposed to be a highly secure area of San Jose International Airport before the flight departed, according to an official briefed on the investigation.

The law enforcement official told The Associated Press on Tuesday that video surveillance shows the boy on the airfield a little after 1 a.m. Sunday, walking on the tarmac and near airplanes in fenced and guarded areas. The official was not authorized to speak publicly about the case and spoke on condition of anonymity.

While it's not clear how the teen spent all that time, FBI spokesman Tom Simon in Honolulu said the teen was sleeping in the plane before the 8 a.m. PDT takeoff. He "literally just slept on the plane overnight," Simon said.

High altitude and low temperatures knocked him out during the 5 1/2-hour flight; he didn't regain consciousness until an hour after the plane landed in Hawaii, Simon said. Medical experts have said the boy may have survived the subzero temperatures and thin air of the plane's 38,000-foot cruising altitude because his body went into a hibernation-like state.

AP

A 15-year-old boy, seen sitting on a stretcher center, who stowed away in the wheel well of a flight from San Jose, Calif., to Maui is loaded into an ambulance at Kahului Airport in Kahului, Maui, Hawaii Sunday afternoon, April 20, 2014.

When the landing gear of a Boeing 767 retracts, there is little room to maneuver in the wheel well. The boy would have had to curl up in the fetal position or crouch down the entire time. And there is no way to get into the main cabin or luggage compartment without removing large pieces of the aircraft's interior, said Jon Day, general manager of Southern California Aviation, a maintenance yard in Victorville, Calif., that handles commercial jets.

The boy was resting Tuesday at a Honolulu hospital. Hawaii's Department of Human Services said child welfare officials were arranging his safe return to Northern California.

Meanwhile, investigators were struggling to find out how the San Jose airport's post-9/11 security could have been so easily breached.

Besides video surveillance, the airport has German shepherds and Segway-riding police officers and is surrounded by fences, although many sections do not have barbed wire and could easily be scaled.

The incident "raises serious concerns affecting passenger safety," said U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell, D-Calif., who is asking the Government Accountability Office to assess airport perimeter safety nationwide.

The Transportation Security Administration said it has spent $80 billion on aviation security since its inception, shortly after the 9/11 attacks. That includes baggage and passenger screening, but not perimeter security, which is the responsibility of local authorities.

San Jose airport officials declined to answer questions about their security budget.

Swalwell said San Jose airport officials told him Tuesday they were still reviewing video from before dawn Sunday because there are multiple feeds from many cameras at the 1,050-acre airport.

Simon, at the FBI, said video they've found so far shows the teen right after he scaled the fence and going toward the plane.

The boy has not been charged with a crime, but much about him - including his identity and his motivation - remained a public mystery. Media were camped outside a Santa Clara, Calif., home where his family purportedly lives, but no one came out Tuesday. Authorities haven't released the boy's name, but Jennifer Dericco, a spokeswoman for the Santa Clara Unified School District, said that he attends school in the district.

The FAA says about one-quarter of the 105 stowaways who have sneaked aboard flights worldwide since 1947 have survived. Some wheel-well stowaways survived deadly cold and a lack of oxygen because their breathing, heart rate and brain activity slow down.

Michigan affirmative ban is OK, Supreme Court says

WASHINGTON (AP)—A state's voters are free to outlaw the use of race as a factor in college admissions, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday in a blow to affirmative action that also laid bare tensions among the justices about a continuing need for programs that address racial inequality in America.

The 6-2 decision upheld a voter-approved change to the Michigan Constitution that forbids the state's public colleges to take race into account. That change was indeed up to the voters, the ruling said, over one justice's impassioned dissent that accused the court of simply wanting to wish away inequality.

The ruling bolsters similar voter-approved initiatives banning affirmative action in education in California and Washington state. A few other states have adopted laws or issued executive orders to bar race-conscious admissions policies.

Justice Anthony Kennedy said voters in Michigan chose to eliminate racial preferences, presumably because such a system could give rise to race-based resentment. Kennedy said nothing in the Constitution or the court's prior cases gives judges the authority to undermine the election results.

"This case is not about how the debate about racial preferences should be resolved. It is about who may resolve it," Kennedy said.

He stressed that the court was not disturbing the holding of a 2003 case from Michigan—which gave rise to the 2006 Constitution change—permitting the consideration of race in admissions. A Texas affirmative action case decided in June also did nothing to undermine that principle, Kennedy said.

In a separate opinion siding with Kennedy, Justice Antonin Scalia said Michigan residents favored a colorblind constitution and "it would be shameful for us to stand in their way."

Strongly dissenting from the majority, Justice Sonia Sotomayor said the decision trampled on the rights of minorities, even though the Michigan amendment was adopted democratically.

FBI investigates suspected serial child molester

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The FBI asked for the public's help Tuesday to identify at least 90 potential victims of a suspected child predator who worked at 10 American and other international schools abroad for more than four decades before committing suicide last month in Minnesota.

William James Vahey, 64, killed himself in Luverne on March 21, the FBI said. That was two days after agents in Houston filed for a warrant to search a computer thumb drive that belonged to Vahey, a U.S. citizen with residences in London and Hilton Head Island, S.C. An employee of the American Nicaraguan School in Managua, where Vahey had recently taught ninth-grade world history and geography, gave the drive to the U.S. Embassy there.

The storage device contained pornographic images of at least 90 boys, ages 12 to 14, who appeared to be drugged and unconscious, the FBI said. The agency's spokeswoman in Houston, Special Agent Shauna Dunlap, told The Associated Press that investigators suspect all of the boys in the images were students of Vahey's, going back to 2008, and that he had molested all of them.

"When confronted about the images by a school administrator, Vahey confessed that he was molested as a child and had preyed on boys his entire life, giving them sleeping pills prior to the molestation," according to a statement posted prominently on the FBI's website, http://www.fbi.gov , with links for potential victims.

The photos were catalogued with dates and locations that corresponded with overnight field trips that Vahey had taken with students since 2008, but he had led students on such trips for his entire career, the FBI said.

Maine baby lobster decline could end high catches

YARMOUTH, Maine (AP)—The number of baby lobsters settling off the rocky coast of Maine continues to steadily decline—possibly foreshadowing an end to the recent record catches that have boosted New England's lobster fishery, scientists say.

A University of Maine survey of 11 Gulf of Maine locations indicates that young lobsters have declined by more than half of their 2007 levels—significant since lobsters typically take about eight years to reach the legal harvesting size.

The downward trend has lobstermen, retailers, state officials, and ocean scientists concerned that the impact could soon be felt on dinner tables nationwide. Maine lobsters were 85 percent of the nation's lobster catch in 2012.

Warmer ocean temperatures, pollution, atmospheric conditions and changes in predation and availability of food could all be to blame, say scientists, state officials and industry leaders. Lobsters are very sensitive to even subtle changes in temperature, scientists say.

Maine Department of Marine Resources officials say the decline does not appear to be the product of overfishing as some environmental groups contend.

The last three years have brought record hauls to Maine's lobster industry, more than 350 million pounds—by far the most for any three-year period according to state data that go back to 1880. The value of the catch has topped $1 billion for the first time.

Larger catches generally follow high levels years earlier of baby lobster settlement—the process in which young lobsters reach the ocean floor and grow. The boom in lobster catches in recent years follows a trend of heavy lobster settlement in the mid-2000s, university scientists say.

But that pace might not be sustainable, says Carl Wilson, the state's lobster biologist.

"It's our first indicator that things might be changing in the future," Wilson said. "Low settlement, it's thought, in the future will lead to lower landings."

Maine lobsters' eggs hatch in the early summer and larvae swim freely about six to eight weeks before settling at the ocean bottom as inch-long post-larvae. Divers for the University of Maine have been tracking their settlement rates since the late 1980s.

The American Lobster Settlement Index tracks 13 settlement areas, 11 of which are in the Gulf of Maine, two in Canada and three in Massachusetts. All show decline, scientists said.

Asia

Obama visit to Asia seen as counterweight to China

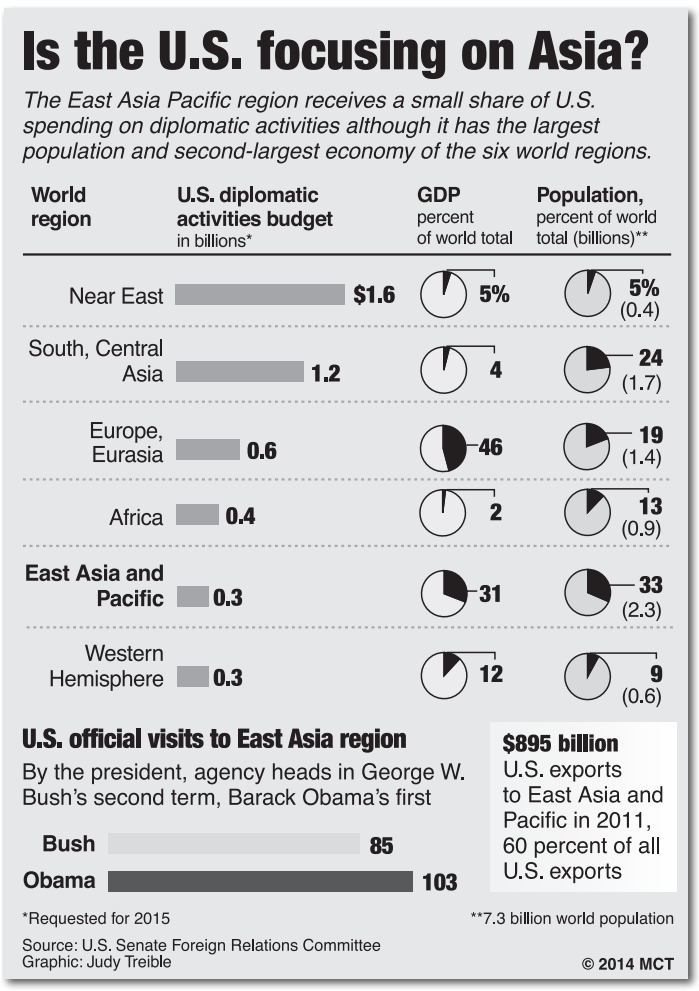
TOKYO (AP)—President Barack Obama's travels through Asia aim to reassure partners about the renewed U.S. commitment to the region, with an eye both to China's rising assertiveness and the fast-growing markets that are the center of gravity for global growth.

The question: Will it be enough?

Nearly seven months after he cancelled an Asia tour due to the U.S. government shutdown, Obama's failure to prevent Russia from annexing Crimea has sharpened concerns that America lacks the will or wherewithal to follow through on its much-touted "pivot" to the Asia-Pacific.

"Words come easy," said Philippine political analyst Ramon Casiple. "But U.S. allies would want to know what help they can get when things reach a point of no return."

The United States has been stepping up regional military deployments, but has made less progress on rebalancing through broader diplomatic and economic initiatives, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a Pacific Rim free trade agreement.


Is the U.S. focusing on Asia?
The East Asia Pacific region receives a small share of U.S. spending on diplomatic activities although it has the largest population and second-largest economy of the six world regions.
World region
U.S. diplomatic activities budget in billions*
GDP percent of world total
Population, percent of world total (billions)**
Near East $1.6 5% 5% (0.4)
South, Central Asia 1.2 4 24 (1.7)
Europe, Eurasia 0.6 46 19 (1.4)
Africa 0.4 2 13 (0.9)
East Asia and Pacific 0.3 31 33 (2.3)
Western Hemisphere 0.3 12 9 (0.6)
U.S. official visits to East Asia region
By the president, agency heads in George W. Bush's second term, Barack Obama's first
Bush 85
Obama 103
$895 billion U.S. exports to East Asia and Pacific in 2011, 60 percent of all U.S. exports
*Requested for 2015
**7.3 billion world population
Source: U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee
Graphic: Judy Treible
© 2014 MCT

Obama arrives in Tokyo on Wednesday for the first state visit to America's closest ally in Asia by a U.S. president since Bill and Hillary Clinton came in 1996. He will be the first sitting U.S. president to visit Malaysia since Lyndon Johnson in 1966. Allies South Korea and the Philippines, the two other stops on his agenda, are also keen to shore up security ties.

U.S. allies wonder if America has adequate capability to back them up in territorial rifts with China, Caspile says, given Washington's budget problems and preoccupation with crises elsewhere.

"The American objective is to reassure countries that ... America is here to stay and is going to keep a strong interest in dealing with China together with those countries," said Koichi Nakano, a political science professor at Tokyo's Sophia University.

A report released last week by the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee urged that more effort and money be devoted to upgrading alliances in the Asia-Pacific. "A successful rebalance must underscore the strategic message that the policy represents an enduring U.S. commitment to the region, assuring our partners that we are in it for the long haul," it said.

During a recent Asian tour, U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel pledged to deploy two more ballistic missile defense destroyers in Japan by 2017 in a bid to allay Japan's worries over a territorial dispute with China and missile launches by North Korea. Hagel also rebuked Beijing for escalating the territorial dispute, which is over Japanese-controlled islands in the East China Sea that Japan calls the Senkaku islands and China calls the Diaoyu.

The U.S. is obligated to protect Japan from attack, but has sought to avoid taking a stand on sovereignty over the islands. Tokyo is hoping for more in the way of confidence building, said Hitoshi Tanaka, chairman of the Institute for International Strategy in Tokyo.

"We would like to see the president make a strong, clear statement about the Senkaku," Tanaka said. "There is a need for Japan and the U.S. to work to improve the security situation in East Asia."

Obama tried to set the record straight in a written response to questions published in Japan's Yomiuri newspaper before his arrival Wednesday. He confirmed the U.S. position that its mutual security treaty with Japan applies to the Senkaku.

"At my direction the United States is once again playing a leading role in the region," he wrote, adding that U.S. engagement with China would "not come at the expense of Japan or any other ally."

Obama's two-night stay in Tokyo—just enough for the state visit the Japanese had pushed for—in itself sends a good message, said Matake Kamiya, a professor at the National Defense Academy in Yokosuka, near Tokyo.

"It's important not only for the psychology of the Japanese but also for the impression given to the Chinese and North Koreans," he said.

The U.S. has 50,000 troops in Japan and about 28,500 in South Korea, where it just concluded joint exercises. But Tokyo and Seoul remain at odds over a separate territorial dispute and lingering Korean resentment of Japanese aggression before and during World War II.

Activity at NKorea site hints at nuke test preps

WASHINGTON (AP)—Commercial satellite imagery shows increased activity at North Korea's nuclear test site but not enough to indicate an underground atomic explosion is imminent, a U.S. research institute said Tuesday.

North Korea last month threatened to conduct its fourth nuclear test and there's been speculation it may do so as President Barack Obama travels to Asia this week.

The U.S.-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies said that recent images, the latest taken Saturday, appear to show movement of crates and possibly lumber near tunnel entrances at the northeastern mountain site of Punggye-ri. But it said in an analysis published on its website—38 North—that more movements of vehicles and equipment were detected in the weeks before previous detonations.

South Korea's Defense Ministry also said Tuesday it has detected "various activities" at Punggye-ri, where North Korea has conducted three nuclear tests since 2006, the latest in February 2013.

In Seoul, ministry spokesman Kim Min-seok told reporters that the South Korea military was keeping in mind that North Korea can conduct a nuclear test suddenly, or could be just pretending to prepare for one "and deceive us, like they did in the past."

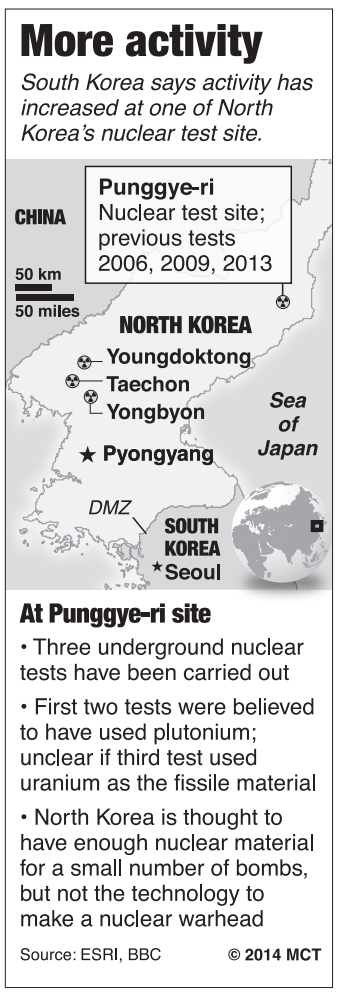
In Washington, a U.S. defense official said Tuesday that there have been signs of increased activity but had no details. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter by name and spoke on condition of anonymity.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said the U.S. was closely monitoring the situation on the Korean Peninsula and continued to urge North Korea "to refrain from actions that threaten regional peace and security."

It is notoriously difficult to divine the intentions of North Korea's isolated regime, particularly on nuclear tests, as the most crucial activity happens underground and out of aerial view. 38 North also cautions that commercial satellite imagery is relatively infrequent so it provides only a snapshot of what's going on at Punggye-ri.

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula have escalated over the past month, as North Korea has objected strongly to the U.S. and South Korea conducting annual military exercises that ended last week. The North has test-fired two medium-range ballistic missiles and exchanged artillery fire with South Korea at their sea border.

In a briefing ahead of Obama's departure Tuesday on his four-nation trip, that will include South Korea, the White House senior director for Asian affairs, Evan Medeiros, told reporters: "Right now we are going into an environment where there's a growing number of threats and risks of provocation." He said North Korea's threat to conduct a nuclear test showed it wasn't interested in credible negotiations.


More activity
South Korea says activity has increased at one of North Korea's nuclear test site.
Punggye-ri
Nuclear test site; previous tests 2006, 2009, 2013
CHINA
50 km
50 miles
NORTH KOREA
Youngdoktong
Taechon
Yongbyon
Pyongyang
Sea of Japan
DMZ
SOUTH KOREA
Seoul
At Punggye-ri site
• Three underground nuclear tests have been carried out
• First two tests were believed to have used plutonium; unclear if third test used uranium as the fissile material
• North Korea is thought to have enough nuclear material for a small number of bombs, but not the technology to make a nuclear warhead
Source: ESRI, BBC
© 2014 MCT

SKorea ferry toll hits 146 as search gets tougher

JINDO, South Korea (AP)—The grim work of recovering bodies from the submerged South Korea ferry proceeded rapidly Wednesday, with the official death toll reaching 146, though a government official said divers must now rip through cabin walls to retrieve more victims.

The victims are overwhelmingly students of a single high school in Ansan, near Seoul. More than three-quarters of the 323 students are dead or missing, while nearly two-thirds of the other 153 people on board the ferry *Sewol* when it sank one week ago survived.

Even with more than 150 people still missing, the funeral halls in Ansan are already full, Oh Sang-yoon of the government-wide emergency task force center said in a statement. He said the center "is taking measures to accommodate additional bodies by placing mortuary refrigerators at the funeral halls in Ansan," and directing mourning families to funeral homes in nearby cities.

On Jindo island, where bodies recovered from the ferry are taken, descriptions of the dead are read over a loudspeaker. Relatives rush over to the main notice board and peered at details added by an official.

Some relatives cry out and run from the tent. Others stand red-eyed and shell-shocked.

The number of corpses recovered has risen sharply since the weekend, when divers battling strong currents and low visibility were finally able to enter the submerged vessel. But task force spokesman Koh Myung-seok the work is becoming more difficult, and divers must now break through cabin walls to retrieve more bodies.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Sherpas leave Everest; some expeditions nix climbs

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Sherpa guides were leaving Mount Everest's base camp on Wednesday as part of a walkout following the mountain's deadliest disaster, as some expedition companies announced that they were canceling their climbs this season. American climber Ed Marzec said he saw several Sherpas leaving the base camp and many others packing up their tents. Some were loading their equipment onto a helicopter that had landed at the camp. "There are a lot of Sherpas leaving this morning, and in the next two days there will be a huge number that will follow," Marzec, 67, from San Diego, said by phone from the base camp. He said he had already decided to abandon his climb. Tusli Gurung, a guide who was at the base camp on Wednesday, estimated that nearly half the Sherpas had already left.

Vietnam sentences American man to death for heroin

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—State media say a court in Vietnam has sentenced an American to death for heroin trafficking. The *Liberated Saigon* newspaper says Jason Dinh, 41, was convicted of trafficking 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of heroin at a one-day trial by Ho Chi Minh City's People's Court on Tuesday. The paper said Wednesday that Dinh was arrested last June after customs officials found the heroin hidden in his underwear as he was boarding a flight from Ho Chi Minh City to Australia. The report quoted the indictment as saying Dinh was hired by an unidentified man to carry the heroin for $30,000. Court officials were not available for comment Wednesday.

Pirates rob Japanese tanker in Malacca Strait

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysian marine police say pirates raided a Japanese tanker in the Malacca Strait and pilfered several million liters of diesel fuel it was carrying. A marine police officer says the tanker was sailing from Singapore to Myanmar when it was boarded by pirates armed with pistols and machetes early Tuesday. He says most of the crew members were tied and locked in a room. The officer, who declined to be named as he isn't authorized to speak to the media, says another tanker then emerged and an estimated 3 million liters, of the 5 million liters of diesel on board the Japanese ship, were transferred over a span of several hours. He said Wednesday that three Indonesian crew members were missing along with their passports and belongings.

World

‘Piles and piles’ of bodies in S. Sudan slaughter

AP

In this image taken from video, dead bodies lie on the road near Bentiu, South Sudan, on Sunday, April 20, 2014.

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—The townsfolk believed the mosque was safe. They crammed inside as rebel forces in South Sudan took control of the town from government troops. But it wasn’t safe. Robbers grabbed their cash and mobile phones. Then gunmen came and opened fire on everyone, young and old.

The U.N. says hundreds of civilians were killed in the massacre last week in Bentiu, the capital of South Sudan’s oil-producing Unity state, a tragic reflection of longstanding ethnic hostilities in the world’s newest country.

“Piles and piles” of bodies were left behind after the shootings, said Toby Lanzer, the top U.N. aid official in South Sudan. Many were in the mosque. Others were in the hospital. Still more littered the streets. The violence appears to have been incited in part by calls on the radio for revenge attacks, including rapes.

The attack, which targeted members of certain ethnic groups, was a disturbing echo of what happened two decades ago in another country in eastern Africa. Rwanda is marking the 20th anniversary this month of a genocide that killed an estimated 1 million people and also saw orders to kill broadcast over the radio.

Thousands of people have been killed in violence in South Sudan since December, when presidential guards splintered and fought along ethnic lines. The violence later spread across the country as soldiers loyal to President Salva Kiir, an ethnic Dinka, tried to put down a rebellion led by Riek Machar, the former vice president and an ethnic Nuer.

But Lanzer told The Associated Press in a phone interview Tuesday that the April 15-16 mass killings, carried out by Nuers, are “quite possibly a game-changer” in the conflict.

“It’s the first time we’re aware of that a local radio station was broadcasting hate messages encouraging people to engage in atrocities,” said Lanzer, who was in Bentiu on Sunday and Monday. “And that really accelerates South Sudan’s descent into an even more difficult situation from which it needs to extract itself.”

Lanzer said thousands of civilians from several ethnic groups are streaming to the U.N. peacekeeping base in Bentiu because many believe more violence is coming. The base now holds 22,000 people—up from 4,500 at the start of April—but can supply only one liter of water per person per day. Some 350 people must share one toilet.

“The risk of a public health crisis inside our base is enormous,” he said.

Raphael Gorgeu, the head of Doctors Without Borders in South Sudan, said people will die inside the U.N. base in the coming days because of the water and sanitation situation.

As rebel forces entered Bentiu last week, residents were led to believe that by entering the mosque they would be safe, Lanzer said, citing accounts from survivors. But once inside they were robbed of money and mobile phones and a short while later gunmen began killing, both inside the mosque and inside the city hospital.

The U.N. hasn’t spelled out clearly who exactly the victims were, but it is likely that ethnic Dinkas were among the dead. If you were not Nuer, then nothing could save you. And even Nuers who refused to take part in the attacks were killed, according to the U.N., as were former residents of the Darfur region of Sudan.

The gunmen killed wantonly, including children and the elderly, Lanzer said.

Analysis: Putin likely to ignore West on Ukraine

MOSCOW (AP)—Since he took over Crimea, President Vladimir Putin has seen his popularity soar and his opposition fall silent. So when the U.S. vice president told Russia to defuse tensions in Ukraine, Putin had few reasons to listen.

Emboldened by the national euphoria over the annexation of Crimea, Putin has moved against the few remaining critical voices in Russia and further neutered the news media. On Tuesday, a court cleared the way for sending his most vocal critic to prison.

Opposition leader Alexei Navalny was found guilty of slandering a lawmaker and fined the equivalent of $8,400. As a result, he may be jailed during a trial in a second case that starts Thursday. If found guilty, he could be sent to prison.

Navalny was nearly jailed last summer, when he was running a high-profile mayoral campaign in Moscow, but his conviction brought thousands into the streets in protest. The Kremlin evidently calculated it would be better to allow him to run for mayor, but he surprised everyone by finishing a strong second with 27 percent of the vote.

But now Putin, with his approval rating at 80 percent, no longer appears willing to tolerate any criticism.

Chillingly, Putin has begun to cast his critics as “national traitors,” an intimation that anyone who opposes the Kremlin is serving the interests of the West. He has compared Russians who oppose his aggressive actions in Ukraine to the Bolsheviks, who took advantage of Russia’s defeat in World War I to stage their 1917 revolution.

Navalny, who for years has led a relentless effort to expose government corruption, wrote an opinion column for The New York Times last month that urged the U.S. to impose sanctions on Putin’s closest friends as punishment for the takeover of Crimea. The next day, five of the nine people Navalny mentioned were hit.

He understood that the Kremlin would make him pay for taking delight in the sanctions. “Time to pack a bag for jail,” said a post on his Twitter feed.

The travel bans and asset freezes imposed on Russian officials by the U.S. and European Union have been greeted publicly by bravado and ridicule in Moscow, with those targeted proclaiming themselves proud to have made the sanctions list. But the sanctions have hurt Russia’s economy by spooking investors and driving up inflation as the ruble has lost value.

The U.S. and EU have said they will broaden the list and impose more punishment against Russia’s banking and energy sectors if Moscow fails to follow through on the provisions of an international agreement on Ukraine reached last week in Geneva.

Ukraine orders new military operation in the east

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine’s acting president ordered security forces to resume operations in the country’s east on Tuesday after the bodies of two people allegedly abducted by pro-Russia insurgents were found and a military aircraft was reportedly hit by gunfire.

The developments—just hours after U.S. Vice President Joe Biden left the Ukrainian capital—raised fears that last week’s international agreement on easing Ukraine’s crisis was unraveling.

The accord calls for all sides to refrain from violence and for demonstrators to vacate public buildings. It does not specifically prohibit security operations, but Ukraine suspended its so-called “anti-terrorist operation” after it was reached.

Pro-Russia insurgents who have seized police stations and other public buildings in eastern Ukraine are defying the call to vacate, saying they were not party to the agreement by Ukraine, Russia, the United States and the European Union.

In a statement, acting President Oleksandr Turchynov said the two bodies found Tuesday in Slovyansk bore signs of torture. One of the victims was a member of the city council and a member of Turchynov’s party, he said.

Terrorists “are beginning to torture and kill Ukrainian patriots. They are impudently rejecting the calls of not only our country but of all the world’s society when they demonstratively mock the decisions taken in Geneva,” he said.

“These crimes are being done with the full support and connivance of Russia,” Turchynov added.

The acting government, which took over after President Viktor Yanukovych fled to Russia in February, says Russia is behind the unrest in eastern Ukraine which it fears Moscow could use as a pretext for an invasion. Last month, Russia annexed Crimea weeks after seizing control of the peninsula.

The Defense Ministry said gunfire hit an observation plane over Slovyansk but the aircraft landed safely without injuries.

Standing alongside Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Biden called on Moscow to encourage pro-Russia separatists in eastern Ukraine to vacate government buildings and checkpoints, accept amnesty and “address their grievances politically.”

Syrian rebels make last stand for Homs

BEIRUT (AP)—Weakened Syrian rebels are making their last desperate stand in Homs, as forces loyal to President Bashar Assad launch their harshest assault yet to expel them from the central city, once known as the capital of the revolution.

Some among the hundreds of rebels remaining in the city talk of surrender, according to opposition activists there. Others have lashed back against the siege with suicide car bombings in districts under government control. Some fighters are turning on comrades they suspect want to desert, pushing them into battle.

“We expect Homs to fall,” said an activist who uses the name Thaer Khalidiya in an online interview with The Associated Press. “In the next few days, it could be under the regime’s control.”

The fight for Homs underscores Assad’s determination to rout rebels ahead of presidential elections now set for June 3, aiming to scatter fighters back further north toward their supply lines on the Turkish borders. Assad’s forces are building on gains elsewhere—they have been able to almost clear rebels from a broad swath of territory south of Homs between the capital, Damascus, and the Lebanese border, breaking important rebel supply lines there. Rebels have also capitulated in several towns around Damascus after blockades that caused widespread hunger and suffering.

Homs, Syria’s third largest city, is a crucial target. Located in the country’s center, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of Damascus, it links the capital with Aleppo in the north—the country’s largest city and another key battleground. But rebels still control large areas of the countryside in the north and south and have consolidated around the Turkish and Jordanian borders.

“A total loss of Homs would represent a serious loss to the opposition,” said Charles Lister, visiting fellow at the Brookings Doha Center.

“The military has maintained a steadily significant focus on Homs precisely due to this importance,” said Lister. “This has been all been part of a very conscious strategy of encircling, besieging and capturing areas of strategic importance,” particularly urban areas.

Environment

EPA solicits Environmental Award nominations

SAN FRANCISCO—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Pacific Southwest region is encouraging citizens in California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, and the Pacific islands to nominate a friend, peer, or organization for this year's Environmental Awards program.

This year's nomination period begins today and closes May 31, 2014.

»Opportunity to recognize environmental champions

The program seeks to recognize individuals and groups outside of EPA who made significant contributions to improve the environment. Anyone can be nominated, such as scientists, teachers, journalists, community activists, young people, organizations, business representatives, public officials, and others committed to protecting public health and preserving our natural surroundings.

EPA expects to notify winners this fall. Awardees will be recognized in events in their local areas or in conjunction with existing events, such as a conference or meeting.

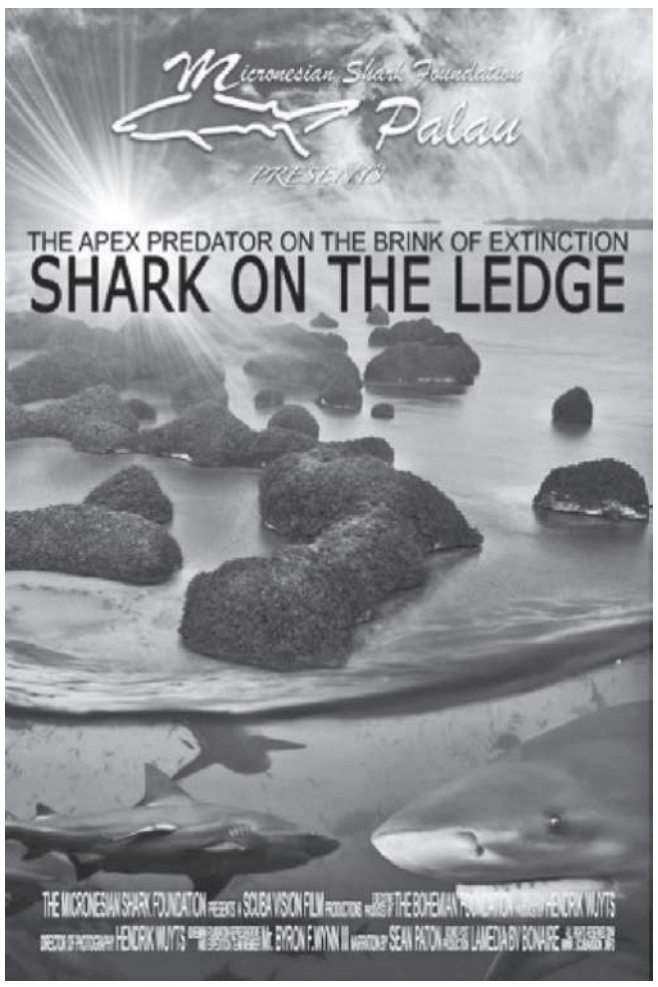
Last year's winners included a nonprofit organization that offers building supplies for reuse, wetlands scientists who champion vernal pool protection, a solar-powered dairy, a transportation professional who advanced electric school buses, a regional composting facility, and an educational foundation.

For more information on the awards, visit: http://www.epa.gov/region9/awards/

For more information on submitting a nomination, visit http://www2.epa.gov/region-9-documents/forms/environmental-awards-how-nominate. ***(EPA)***

FIRST FRIDAY FILMS

Film explores troubling truths about impacts of illegal fishing on sharks



»A different kind of scary film about Micronesia's top marine predators

First Friday Films presents the new film *Shark on the Ledge* on Friday, May 2, at 6:30pm at American Memorial Park, displaying some difficult truths about the impact of illegal fishing on shark populations in Palau.

Palau was the first nation in the world to grant full protection status to shark populations with the signing of a landmark agreement signed by President Johnson Toribiong in 2009. On direct request by the President, the Micronesian Shark Foundation was granted full access to conduct research to analyze the effect of human influence on shark populations in Palau.

Shark on the Ledge documents the two-week voyage of four scientists who tried to deploy satellite tags on sharks on Helen's Reef, a sandy atoll rising only a few feet above sea level in the southernmost isolated corner of Palau. Their experience in the believed-pristine waters of Helen's Reef was shocking in comparison with the heavily trafficked and populated areas of Koror where they visited next. The film displays the devastating destruction of illegal fishing and long-lining as well as the need to protect broad-scale marine biodiversity, starting with sharks as top predators.

First Friday Films is a partnership between American Memorial Park, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality and the Humanities Council with support from other organizations and individuals. This film is sponsored by the Micronesian Shark Foundation and was made possible by donations from the Bohemian Foundation and the assistance of First Friday Films supporters.

As always, our film events are free and open to the public. This event will run approximately 90 minutes.

For more information about First Friday Films, email fff-saipan@gmail.com or check out www.firstfridayfilms-saipan.blogspot.com. ***(PR)***

Link found between fracking and earthquakes

By PARESH DAVE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Ohio geologists have found a probable connection between fracking and a sudden burst of mild earthquakes last month in a region that had never experienced a temblor until recently, according to a state report.

The quake report, which coincided with the state's announcement of some of the nation's strictest limits on fracking near faults, marked the strongest link to date between nerve-rattling shakes and hydraulic fracturing—the process of firing water, sand and chemicals deep into the earth to eject oil and natural gas out of ancient rock.

Last month, Ohio indefinitely shut down Hilcorp Energy's fracking operation near the Pennsylvania border after earthquakes, including one magnitude-3 temblor that awoke many Ohioans from their sleep.

Federal scientists have previously linked earthquakes in part to the use of injection wells, where post-fracking waste water is forced back deep into the earth for storage. None of the seven wells near the Ohio temblors were used for waste disposal, leaving Ohio scientists to go a step further to find a significant relationship between the initial blast of fluid and the earthquakes shortly after.

They "believe the sand and water injected into the well during the hydraulic fracturing process may have increased pressure on an unknown microfault in the area," the Ohio Department of Natural Resources said in a statement about the Poland, Ohio, operation.

The new rules require companies to install "sensitive seismic monitors" before beginning to drill sideways into underground rock "within 3 miles of a known fault or area of seismic activity greater than a 2.0 magnitude." Humans can generally feel earthquakes in excess of magnitude 3.

Drilling would be suspended pending investigation whenever the monitors detect anything above magnitude 1.

"While we can never be 100 percent sure that drilling activities are connected to a seismic event, caution dictates that we take these new steps to protect human health, safety and the environment," said department Director James Zehringer. Data gathered by the monitors would be used to improve fault maps, he said.

Hilcorp Energy said it was reviewing the new permitting rules and that it remained "fully committed to public safety and acting in a manner consistent with being a good corporate citizen."

Officials from Ohio and several other states that have seen a dramatic rise in seismic activity met recently to discuss how to handle the ongoing expansion of fracking to new beds of rock, where faults might not be well mapped.

Gerry Baker, an official with the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, called Ohio's new rules a "sensible response to a serious issue that regulators across the country are closely examining." Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and Kansas have been among those seeing the largest surges in seismic activity.

Critics of fracking have long warned of a suspected connection between earthquakes and the expanded drilling for oil and gas in shale deposits. They've also raised concerns about the chemicals used contaminating groundwater.

Ray Beiersdorfer, a Youngstown State University geology professor whose wife co-founded Frackfree America, said the new regulations mirror what he has been seeking. He's now asked Ohio officials to make public the data they used to find the connection as well as set the new restrictions.

"The whole problem is no one knows about these faults until the earthquakes happen because the faults haven't been researched," he said.

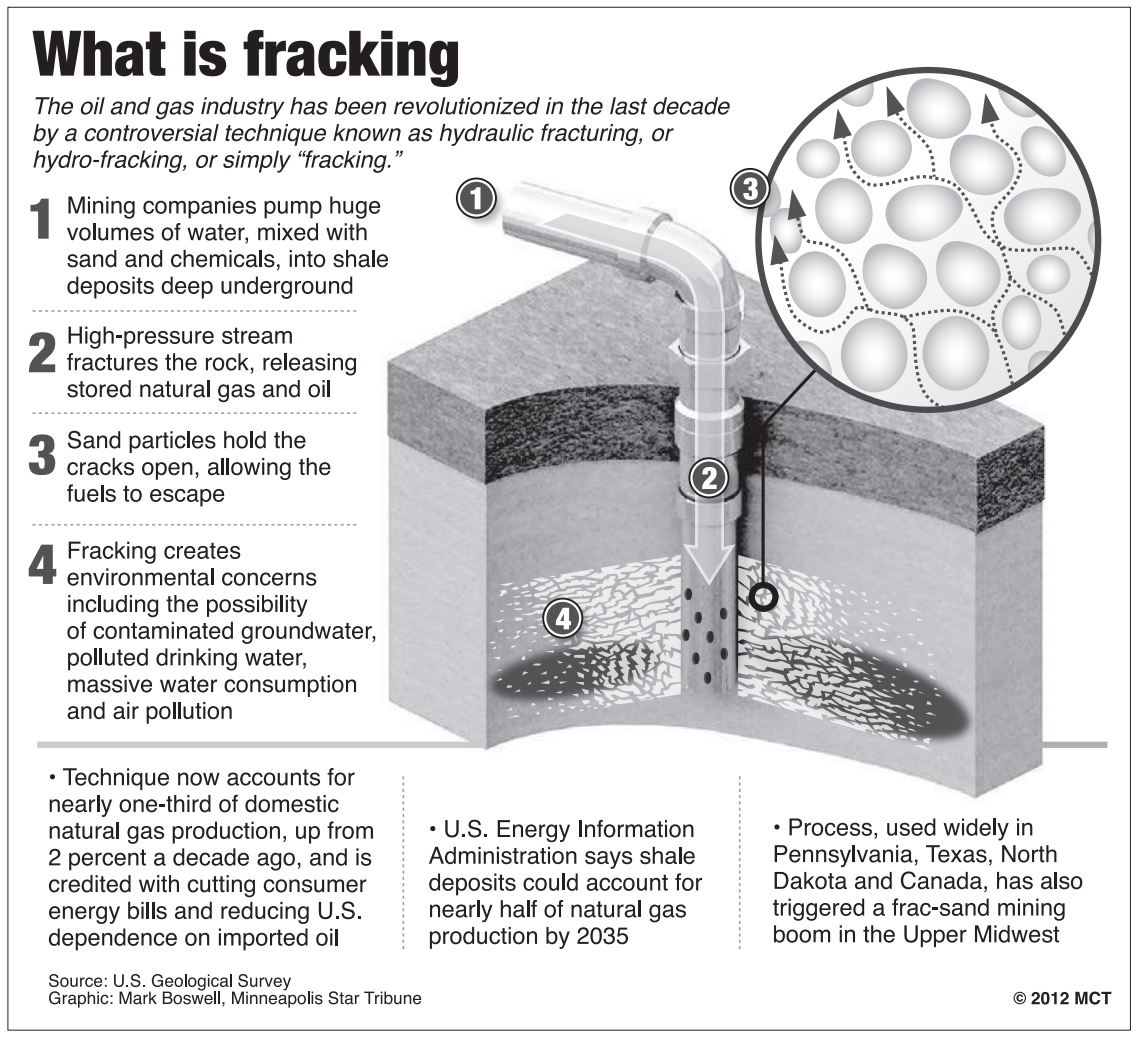
The Environmental Defense Fund also lauded what they called Ohio's "reasonable precautions."

"Although there is much uncertainty regarding what causes earthquakes and how dangerous small and medium quakes may be—and therefore this is a policy that may well evolve in the future—the state's decisive action is based on the best information available," the organization's senior policy advisor, Scott Anderson, said in a statement.

Oil and gas companies have tended to stay away from the well-known fault lines in Ohio, according to the industry publication Natural Gas Intelligence. But industry leaders have maintained that there's scant evidence that fracking causes earthquakes, labeling the temblors isolated incidents.

At Hilcorp's site directly above last month's earthquakes, the state has banned further fracking but has allowed wells already fracked to resume operating.

"This is also expected to have the beneficial effect of reducing underground pressure and decreasing the likelihood of another seismic event," the state said.


What is fracking
The oil and gas industry has been revolutionized in the last decade by a controversial technique known as hydraulic fracturing, or hydro-fracking, or simply "fracking."
1 Mining companies pump huge volumes of water, mixed with sand and chemicals, into shale deposits deep underground
2 High-pressure stream fractures the rock, releasing stored natural gas and oil
3 Sand particles hold the cracks open, allowing the fuels to escape
4 Fracking creates environmental concerns including the possibility of contaminated groundwater, polluted drinking water, massive water consumption and air pollution
• Technique now accounts for nearly one-third of domestic natural gas production, up from 2 percent a decade ago, and is credited with cutting consumer energy bills and reducing U.S. dependence on imported oil
• U.S. Energy Information Administration says shale deposits could account for nearly half of natural gas production by 2035
• Process, used widely in Pennsylvania, Texas, North Dakota and Canada, has also triggered a frac-sand mining boom in the Upper Midwest
Source: U.S. Geological Survey
Graphic: Mark Boswell, Minneapolis Star Tribune
© 2012 MCT

Life & Style

Letterman gets visit from his successor, Colbert

NEW YORK (AP)—Stephen Colbert, who will take over for a retiring David Letterman on CBS' "Late Show" next year, revealed Tuesday that he almost worked for Letterman—twice.

Colbert, the Comedy Central host, visited the "Late Show" for the first time since it was announced earlier this month that he will replace Letterman sometime next year. He was greeted warmly, with Letterman introducing him as "very talented" and "always entertaining," and the two men posed for the obligatory selfie.

It was a different visit in 1986, the year that Colbert, now 49, graduated from Northwestern. Letterman was working at NBC then, and Colbert said he accompanied his girlfriend to New York, where she was interviewing for an internship at Letterman's show.

AP

In this May 3, 2012 photo provided by CBS, Stephen Colbert, left, host of the "Colbert Report" on the Comedy Central Network, has a laugh on stage with host David Letterman on the set of the "Late Show with David Letterman," in New York.

In an odd turn of events, Colbert said he was hired instead of his soon-to-be ex-girlfriend. But he turned the job down.

"I did not take the internship because you do not pay people," he said. "The next job I'm taking, that pays, right? Because I've already signed."

Eleven years later, Colbert said he and his writing partner submitted a packet of material to the "Late Show," hoping to join the writing staff. He said no one from the show got back to them for four months, and by then Comedy Central had already hired Colbert to do the show "Strangers With Candy."

Colbert pulled out a card and read the Top Ten list that he and his partner had submitted 14 years ago to try to get the job. The list, written around the holidays, was "Top Ten Cocktails for Santa."

"Late Show" producers inserted the traditional prepared intro that runs before Letterman's Top Ten list every night, for which the current host feigned outrage.

"He doesn't have the job yet," he said. "Don't let the door hit you in the ass."

Colbert said that "obviously, I'm thrilled" to have the job. The "Colbert Report" on Comedy Central will continue through the end of this year. The date of Letterman's exit and Colbert's debut on the "Late Show" hasn't been set.

He told Letterman that "I'm going to do whatever you have done," and Letterman protested: "You don't want to do that."

"It seems to have gone pretty well, Dave," Colbert said.

"It's gone on," Letterman replied.

Summer movie preview: Bay reboots 'Transformers'

NEW YORK (AP)—Summer is the season of Michael Bay.

As much as anyone else, Bay—in movies like "Armageddon," "Pearl Harbor" and "Transformers"—has shaped what the summer movie is: its quick-cutting bombast, its visual-effects flourish, its capacity for mass destruction.

This summer, he'll release "Transformers: Age of Extinction" (June 27), the fourth film in the franchise, with a revamped cast led by Mark Wahlberg. The 49-year-old Bay, who also produces "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" (Aug. 8) later in the season, is well acquainted with the scale of the modern blockbuster.

"I've been doing these movies a long time," said Bay in a recent break from the editing suite. "When all is said and done maybe 3,500 people will have worked on this movie. It's one day at a time. You can't panic. My pep talk to everyone is: This is when the pro (expletive) starts and separates the men from the boys."

"Age of Extinction" subs out the sometimes combative Shia LaBeouf with an older, more established action star in Wahlberg. It's planned as the first of a redesigned "Transformers" trilogy.

Bay and Wahlberg first connected on last year's comic crime caper "Pain & Gain," a relatively low-budget project for Bay and one of his most critically acclaimed films.

Wahlberg has already vowed that "Age of Extinction" will be the biggest movie of the year. While optimistic, it's not out of the question. The last "Transformers" film, 2011's "Dark of the Moon," made more than $1.1 billion worldwide.

"It feels fresher with the cast," says Bay. "It's like when you get the new `Batman' franchises, things get dressed up in a different way. I think the franchise still has a lot more to offer."

The Paramount Pictures release will also have a leg up on the box office in China. "Age of Extinction" is a co-production with two Chinese film companies. A month of shooting took place there, and several Chinese actors were cast through a televised reality show talent search.

Such is the global natural of the big-budget summer movie, a sprawling operation that takes a unique acuity to assemble.

'Gabriel Garcia Marquez left manuscript'

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez left behind an unpublished manuscript that he chose not to print while he was alive, an editor told The Associated Press on Tuesday as the writer's compatriots held a musical tribute to him in his native Colombia.

Cristobal Pera, editorial director of Penguin Random House Mexico, said that Garcia Marquez's family has not yet decided whether to allow the book to come out posthumously, or which publishing house would get the rights. Garcia Marquez died at his Mexico City home on April 17.

The manuscript has a working title of "We'll See Each Other in August," ("En Agosto Nos Vemos").

An excerpt of the manuscript published in Spain's La Vanguardia newspaper contains what appears to be an opening chapter, describing a trip taken by a 50-ish married woman who visits her mother's grave on a tropical island every year. In the chapter, she has an affair with a man of about the same age at the hotel where she stays.

Bon Jovi helps open low-income housing in Philly

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Jon Bon Jovi's hit tune "Who Says You Can't Go Home?" took on new meaning Tuesday as the rock star cut the ribbon on a namesake housing development for low-income residents and the formerly homeless in Philadelphia.

The 55-unit JBJ Soul Homes opened in the Francisville neighborhood after about 18 months of construction. Bon Jovi's Soul Foundation provided the lead gift for the $16.6 million complex, which he hopes will offer tenants the support they need to get back on their feet.

"This is not a handout, it's just a hand up," Bon Jovi said in an interview before the official ceremony. "This opportunity for them is special and it's not easy to come by."

The four-story building, which was financed by public and private funds, also includes retail and office space. Residents will receive social services from Project HOME, a nonprofit dedicated to ending homelessness in Philadelphia. HOME stands for Housing, Opportunities, Medical and Education.

JBJ Soul Homes is "taking our work to a whole new level," said Project HOME cofounder Sister Mary Scullion.

The grand opening of the facility, which coincides with the agency's 25th anniversary, is part of an initiative to build 500 such units across the city, Scullion said. Two developments totaling nearly 200 units are scheduled for groundbreaking over the coming year, she said.

CHART TOPPERS

The top 10 songs and albums on the iTunes Store for the week ending April 21, 2014:

TOP SONGS

1. Happy (From "Despicable Me 2"), Pharrell Williams
2. Talk Dirty (feat. 2 Chainz), Jason Derulo
3. All of Me, John Legend
4 . Let It Go, Idina Menzel
5. West Coast, Lana Del Rey
6. Turn Down For What, DJ Snake, Lil Jon
7. Dark Horse (feat. Juicy J), Katy Perry
8. Play It Again, Luke Bryan
9. Sing, Ed Sheeran
10. The Man, Aloe Blacc

TOP ALBUMS

1. Frozen, Various Artists
2. Testimony, August Alsina
3. Rivers In the Wasteland, NEEDTOBREATHE
4. Talk Dirty, Jason Derulo
5. Crash My Party, Luke Bryan
6. Pure Heroine, Lorde
7. The Secret, Austin Mahone
8. Lights Out, Ingrid Michaelson
9. Comin Home—EP, Jessie James Decker
10. Love In the Future, John Legend

The top iPhone and iPad apps on App Store for the week ending April 21, 2014:

TOP PAID IPHONE APPS

1. A Dark Room, Amirali Rajan
2. Goat Rampage, Swift Apps
3. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
4. Minecraft—Pocket Edition, Mojang
5. Afterlight, Simon Filip
6. Sleep Cycle alarm clock, Northcube AB
7. Hitman GO, SQUARE ENIX INC
8. ThemeLab, Judi Peters
9. Plague Inc., Ndemic Creations
10. Facetune, Lightricks Ltd.

TOP FREE IPHONE APPS

1. 2048—The Game, Ketchapp
2. Piano Tiles, HU WEN ZENG
3. Trials Frontier, Ubisoft
4. Flappy Smash—The End of a Ti..., Makeover Mania Story Games
5. FarmVille 2: Country Escape, Zynga Inc.
6. Family Guy: The Quest for Stuff, TinyCo, Inc.
7. Snapchat, Snapchat, Inc.
8. Instagram, Instagram, Inc.
9. Don't step the white tile, Ayumu Kinoshita
10. What's the Difference? (tilde) spot ..., Candywriter, LLC

TOP PAID IPAD APPS

1. Minecraft—Pocket Edition, Mojang
2. The Amazing Spider-Man 2, Gameloft
3. Goat Rampage, Swift Apps
4. Wallykazam! Letter and Word Ma..., Nickelodeon
5. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
6. The Survival Games : Mini Game..., wang wei
7. Hitman GOSQUARE ENIX INC
8. R.B.I. Baseball 14MLB.com
9. BlekDenis Mikan
10. The Walls—Mini Survival GameLinal Richmore

TOP FREE IPAD APPS

1. Hearthstone: Heroes of WarcraftBlizzard Entertainment, Inc.
2. Microsoft Word for iPadMicrosoft Corporation
3. FarmVille 2: Country EscapeZynga Inc.
4. 2048—The GameKetchapp
5. Piano TilesHU WEN ZENG
6. Trials FrontierUbisoft
7. Flappy Smash—The End of a Ti...Makeover Mania Story Games
8. HornPhosphor Games Studio, LLC
9. Microsoft Excel for iPadMicrosoft Corporation
10. Family Guy: The Quest for StuffTinyCo, Inc.

Drew Barrymore welcomes second baby girl

AP

In this Jan. 14, 2014 file photo, Drew Barrymore and Will Kopelman arrive at the Chanel Dinner celebrating the release of Drew Barrymore's new book 'Find It In Everything' at Chanel Boutique in Beverly Hills, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Drew Barrymore is now a mommy of two.

The 39-year-old actress and her 36-year-old husband, Will Kopelman, are welcoming their second daughter.

Barrymore's rep, Chris Miller, confirms Frankie Barrymore Kopelman was born Tuesday.

Barrymore and Kopelman's first child, daughter Olive, is 19 months old.

The couple say in a statement that "Olive has a new little sister, and everyone is healthy and happy!"

Barrymore told The Associated Press earlier this month that becoming a parent is the greatest thing she's ever done in my life.

Barrymore's latest film, out May 23, is the family-friendly comedy "Blended," which co-stars Adam Sandler. Her recent photo book, "Find It in Everything," was dedicated to daughter Olive.

DeGeneres making design series for HGTV

DeGeneres

NEW YORK (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres is making a furniture design competition series for the HGTV network.

HGTV said Tuesday that "Ellen's Design Challenge" is expected to air sometime next year. It will feature six competitors who sketch, design and build furniture within 24 hours, and will play out over six episodes.

Landing a series from a high-profile star is big news at the lifestyle cable network. DeGeneres is helping to produce the series; the network isn't saying whether or not she will actually appear on it.

Cat Deeley ditches fun side for bad girl role

NEW YORK (AP)—U.K.-born and bred Cat Deeley has found a place in Hollywood, thanks to hosting the Fox dance competition show, "So You Think You Can Dance," which will launch its 11th season next month.

The Emmy-nominated TV personality also has a role in the Hulu original comedy series "Deadbeat." A 10-episode first season is posted on the website.

"Deadbeat" stars Tyler Labine as a pot-smoking slacker named Kevin who also happens to be psychic. He finds a nemesis in Camomile, played by Deeley, a psychic who has built an empire out of faking her ability to communicate with the dead.

"My character is a real baddie," said Deeley, 37, in a recent interview. "She is rotten to the core. She's vile, she's manipulative but she plays America's sweetheart, giving people closure."

Deeley talked about "Deadbeat," her character and "So You Think You Can Dance," which premieres its new season on May 28, in a recent interview.

Deeley

AP: You've done guest spots on TV shows, but not everyone knew you could act.

Deeley: I don't think I knew I could act in all honesty! (Laughs.) I'm normally on live TV. If you make a mistake you just kind of ride with the punches and have a sense of humor about it. It was very different for me but I did really enjoy it.

AP: I feel like your character on "Deadbeat" is like a nightmare version of Oprah Winfrey.

Deeley: (Laughs.) Doing a life class! But a life-after-death class on OWN!

AP: Do you have the acting bug now? Do you want to try drama?

Deeley: I don't know if I could do something like "Schindler's List" or something like that but I was very, very lucky that I got to work with a really good team off the bat. ... I had to learn off the hoof.

AP: "So You Think You Can Dance" is about to start its eleventh season. What do you say about that?

Deeley: Crazy. We're getting 18-year-olds that are turning up that have been waiting to audition for the show. It means that we're still relevant within a dancer's career, which means that we'll still manage to find people. Our audience who watches the show tends to stick with us. You either don't know that the dance show even exists and it's not on your radar and you've never seen an episode or you are a member of our audience that watches our show religiously and you know it's coming on in the summertime. It will not have been the juggernaut that "American Idol" has been in the past because it doesn't appeal to everybody but there's a core audience that watches the show and that's why we're still going.

Bieber seeks delay in Fla. DUI trial

MIAMI (AP)—Justin Bieber is seeking a delay in his trial currently scheduled to begin next month on Florida charges of driving under the influence, resisting arrest and driving with an expired license.

The 20-year-old pop singer's lawyers filed a motion Monday saying they need more time to prepare their case. Bieber's trial is set for May 5 in Miami.

The motion says prosecutors do not oppose a delay. A scheduling hearing is set for Wednesday.

Bieber was arrested Jan. 23 in Miami Beach after what police described as an illegal street drag race. He wasn't charged with drag racing.

Bieber

Alcohol breath tests found Bieber's level below the 0.02 limit for underage drivers. Urine tests showed the presence of marijuana and an anti-anxiety drug in his system.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Jay Leno to give commencement address at Emerson

BOSTON (AP)—Jay Leno is returning to his alma mater, Emerson College, to deliver the commencement address this spring. The small liberal arts college in Boston announced Tuesday the 1973 graduate will speak at the 134th commencement ceremony on May 11. NPR's "Weekend Edition Saturday" host Scott Simon will address the graduate students. Leno hosted NBC's late-night talk show "The Tonight Show" for more than two decades before retiring in February. He was replaced by former "Saturday Night Live" star Jimmy Fallon. The 63-year-old grew up in Andover and is known for his clean, observational humor and his caricature-like facial features, which he references in his 1996 autobiography, "Leading With My Chin." The graduation will be streamed live at the Agganis Arena at Boston University.

Obama, first lady mourn Knuckles

OSO, Wash. (AP)—President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama are mourning the loss of Frankie Knuckles, a Grammy-winning Chicago disc jockey known as the "Godfather of House Music." Knuckles died last month at age 59. The cause was not available. In an April 17 letter on White House stationery and addressed to Knuckles' family and friends, the president and first lady praise Knuckles as a trailblazer. They say his work helped open minds and bring people together by blending genres in a way that captured their attention and ignited their imaginations. They say his legacy lives on in Chicago and on dance floors across the globe. Both Obamas signed the letter. Chicago is their hometown. They say that Knuckles will be dearly missed but that his spirit will remain a guiding force.

Parents are appalled by man's indifference to his young son

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My 23-year-old son, "Wayne," who is single, has a 3-year-old son. We didn't learn about the child until he was more than a year old, when Wayne was asked to take a paternity test. Luckily, we have been able to form a good relationship with our grandson's mother and see him often. However, our son has shown no interest. He pays child support, but has little interaction.

Wayne is an only child. I love him, but I never wanted another one. I was never comfortable around or interested in young children except for my own son. Could he have gotten this from me?

Friends and family have commented on Wayne's lack of interest in his son, and I'm tired of making excuses or telling people to mind their own business. Wayne says he feels resentment and doesn't want to be around this child. I have tried to explain that he'll regret it in years to come, but he won't listen.

My husband is appalled that our son would act this way, but he seems to forget that I was the one who did everything with Wayne. I did the Boy Scouts, movies, horses, trips, etc. He did almost nothing with Wayne and his friends. At this point, I don't know what to do and would like some advice.

MOM IN ILLINOIS

DEAR MOM: Your son is displacing his anger at himself onto his son. He should have used birth control and he knows it. It's not fair, but Wayne does not appear to be the most mature of 23-year-olds.

Rather than blame yourself for the fact that he wants no involvement, consider that children usually model themselves after their same-gender parent. Because your husband was so uninvolved with Wayne, it is possible that Wayne has no idea of what a father's role ought to be. A parenting class could fix this—if your son is willing to take one.

Until then, continue to be the supportive and loving grandparents your grandson needs because, aside from his mother, it appears you're all the backup the little boy has.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I come from a troubled family. I am just now realizing that there is more to life than posting bond for family members and getting people out of jail at 3 a.m. I got my GED and started college this year. Although I try to keep them at bay, they call me with one family crisis or another, and it's putting stress on everyone around me.

I'd love to have a positive relationship with my family, but drama seems to follow them everywhere. Should I just let them go and move on with my life, or continue doing the same as always? Must I drop everything I'm doing to jump and run every time the phone rings?

FAMILY DRAMA IN TEXAS

DEAR FAMILY DRAMA: Every time you come to the rescue, you further enable your relatives to do whatever it is that has gotten them in hot water. That you have managed to separate yourself to the extent you have, and achieve to the level you have reached, is admirable. But if you're going to continue to accomplish your goals, you cannot allow your family to distract you from your studies. Set limits. Let them know when you can't be disturbed and turn your phone off. They'll survive and you'll thrive.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

OK CALVIN, YOU WANT TO PLAY ROUGH, HUH?
GREAT MOONS OF NEPTUNE! SHE MUST HAVE SUPER POWERS TOO!
YOU'VE GOT TWO SECONDS TO GET YOUR CAPED BUTT IN BED, OR I'LL PUT IT THERE FOR GOOD!
OH NO! THE EVIL AMAZON IS USING SOME PSYCHO-BEAM TO WEAKEN MY STUPENDOUS WILL!
I'M COUNTING! ONNNNE...
GASP I... I... MUST RESIST!
TWO!
IN A VERMILLION FLASH, STUPENDOUS MAN IS IN THE AIR!

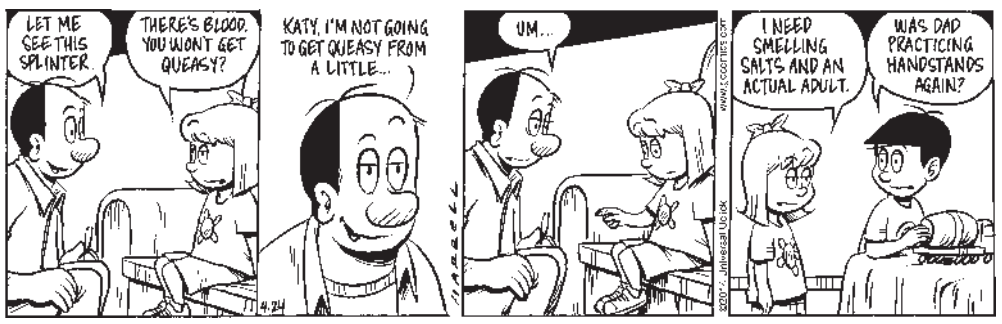
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

YUP, YEARS AGO I OFFENDED AN OLD GYPSY WOMAN
SHE PUT A CURSE ON ME
"TAKE THIS CAT," SHE SAID!
I'M SENSING NEGATIVITY HERE
JIM DAVIS 4-24

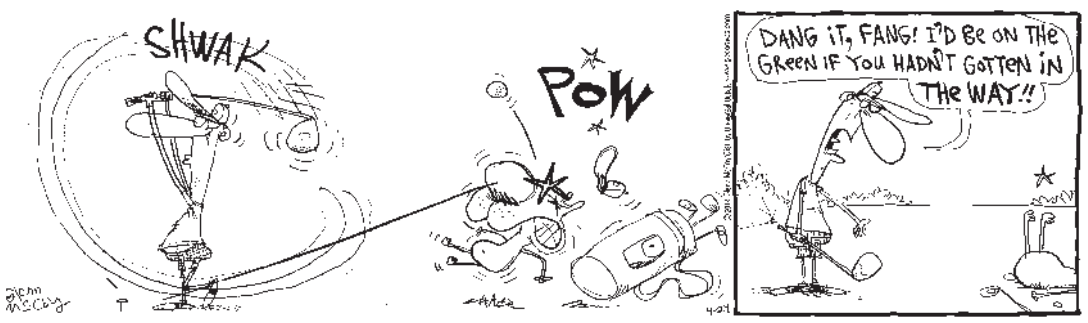
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


LET ME SEE THIS SPLINTER.
THERE'S BLOOD. YOU WON'T GET QUEASY?
KATY, I'M NOT GOING TO GET QUEASY FROM A LITTLE...
UM...
I NEED SMELLING SALTS AND AN ACTUAL ADULT.
WAS DAD PRACTICING HANDSTANDS AGAIN?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

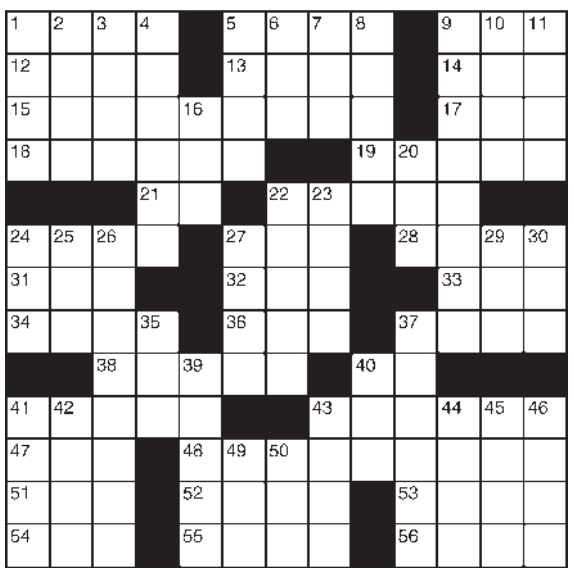
ACROSS
1 Elderly
5 — accompli
9 Corn eater's castoff
12 Arrive
13 Partner
14 Honest politician?
15 Doctor's service, of yore
17 Falsehood
18 Store grain
19 Pompeo or Page
21 Niners' home (Abbr.)
22 Ersatz chocolate
24 Arrears
27 On the — vive
28 Spitballs
31 In vitro items
32 Web address
33 Bill's partner
34 Mexican entree
36 Egos' counterparts
37 Distort
38 Entanglements
40 Yes, in Russian
41 Tender
43 Preacher's place
47 Mainlander's memento
48 "Backdraft" building
51 Needlefish
52 Send forth
53 — podrida
54 Exist
55 Feedbag fill
56 — -do-well

DOWN
1 Rue the run
2 Hired hoodlum
3 Flightless flock
4 Stop
5 Confront
6 Chicken-king link
7 Misfortune
8 Tenth president
9 Auditioner's hope
10 Theater trophy
11 "Where have you —?"
16 Sprite
20 Depressed
22 They get in the whey
23 Sickens
24 Morse morsel
25 Actress Longoria
26 Have exactly the wrong effect
27 Resign
29 One female animal ...
30 ... and another
35 Inseparable
37 Bar
39 Gluck's "— ed Euridice"
40 "Ya think?"
41 Gymnast Korbut
42 Dread
43 Veterinarian's clientele
44 Whine
45 Capri or Wight
46 Rip
49 "— Little Teapot"
50 Fabric dye brand

Solution time: 25 mins.

E	R	A	S	■	D	E	M	■	M	E	S	S
V	I	C	E	■	O	V	A	■	A	S	T	I
E	S	C	H	O	W	E	D	■	I	C	A	N
R	E	T	U	R	N	■	R	E	M	A	R	K
■	■	■	M	A	T	■	E	M	I	R	■	■
A	P	E	■	L	O	G	■	U	N	G	E	R
R	E	S	T	■	N	U	B	■	G	O	T	O
M	A	C	H	O	■	M	O	B	■	T	A	B
■	■	A	R	F	S	■	R	O	C	■	■	■
R	E	P	O	R	T	■	S	T	R	O	B	E
I	V	A	N	■	E	S	C	H	E	W	A	L
G	I	D	E	■	A	S	H	■	P	E	R	K
A	L	E	S	■	M	E	T	■	E	N	D	S

Yesterday's answer 4-24



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Katherine Webb, 25; David Boudia, 25; Kelly Clarkson, 32; Barbra Streisand, 72

Happy Birthday: Don't sit idle when getting out and sharing what you know with others will help you advance. Travel, learning, and participating in community events will help give you a say in the way things are done. More involvement will also lead you toward a leadership position. Work hard to form solid alliances with influential people. Your numbers are 4, 7, 13, 20, 27, 33, 43.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Do your best to get things done. Arguments will be a waste of time. Good fortune will find you if you offer a helping hand to someone in need. A humble and gracious attitude will lead to advancement, popularity and victory. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Find out all you can before you make a move. Offering your services to an organization that you feel you have something worthwhile to contribute to will result in new prospects and a diverse way of putting your talents to work. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Emotional deception and disillusionment will surface when dealing with peers and those who do not wish to see you advance. Look out for your interests and try to present and promote what you have to offer succinctly. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Network, nurture relationships and form alliances that will help you put your best foot forward. Don't let what's going on at home or in your personal life stifle your chance to reach your dreams, hopes and professional wishes. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Re-evaluate your motives before making promises. Ask questions and get the lowdown on what everyone around you wants and is willing to contribute. Change is good, but it has to be for the right reason. Financial confusion is apparent. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't stop until you are satisfied with the results you get. You can get ahead, but only if you are willing to take the extra step and make things happen. Put your ideas into play and you'll impress someone you love or admire. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Complaints, demands and trouble will plague you when dealing with business or personal partners. Get out and do something that will benefit you. Personal gratification will help ease stress and give you a better perspective regarding your relationships. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't let tension slow you down. Get the ball rolling and don't stop until you reach your destination. What you accomplish will be recognized and rewarded. Leave time for romance late in the day. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Make changes at home that add to your comfort, but don't go over budget or you will fall short financially at the end of the month. An aggressive act at work will grab attention and raise consideration for what you have to offer. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Be careful not to jump into something without checking the fine print. Loss is likely if you show impatience. Anger will mount when dealing with those who oppose your plans. Stick close to home and focus on self-improvement, not trying to change others. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Clarity coupled with a genuine offer will help you make positive changes. An unusual investment or financial deal can change your standard of living. Don't give up on your ideas, just keep reworking them until you find the perfect fit. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take a bit of a break. Enjoy life and share good times with someone special. Catching up with an old friend will spark vim and vigor in your life. Love is in the stars, and romance will enhance your life. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, willful and stubborn. You are a leader and a doer.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	3		7		8		5	
		1				8		
	2						1	
		9	2		4	3		
		7				2		
		8	9		6	1		
	5						4	
		6				5		
	9		1		2		6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	5	7	3	6	2	9	8
2	8	3	4	1	9	6	5	7
9	7	6	2	5	8	3	1	4
7	6	9	1	2	4	5	8	3
8	3	4	9	7	5	1	6	2
1	5	2	8	6	3	7	4	9
3	9	7	6	4	1	8	2	5
6	2	8	5	9	7	4	3	1
5	4	1	3	8	2	9	7	6

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WAHLBURGERS Solution: 10 letters

S	R	N	O	M	L	A	S	A	U	C	E	D	H	H
A	P	E	K	O	C	A	E	Ⓢ	A	R	M	O	O	C
N	W	A	G	B	U	T	P	Ⓣ	L	E	N	U	T	A
D	A	A	R	R	T	A	P	Ⓞ	L	I	S	B	D	N
W	W	M	H	W	U	O	A	Ⓣ	O	E	K	L	O	I
I	O	A	L	L	S	B	R	N	M	N	W	E	G	P
C	H	R	H	A	C	E	F	A	M	I	L	Y	S	S
H	S	K	L	L	L	O	D	F	E	E	B	B	G	E
E	A	A	R	I	B	E	C	O	L	A	O	L	N	V
S	D	D	S	E	C	R	T	T	O	O	S	E	I	A
S	O	H	D	K	A	O	E	T	I	B	T	N	P	F
O	N	U	E	O	M	L	A	W	U	O	O	D	P	L
D	N	R	P	A	C	T	I	N	S	C	N	S	O	H
A	I	D	T	S	O	K	S	T	A	K	E	S	T	A
S	E	O	F	R	I	E	S	B	Y	C	I	P	S	W

©2014 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 4/24

Alma, Bacon, Beef, Blends, Boston, Buns, Burger, Caesar, Coke, Cola, Decker, Donnie, Double, Family, Frappes, Fries, Haddock, Hot Dogs, Housemade, Lettuce, Like, Mark, Melt, Onion, Paul, Reality, Relish, Salads, Salmon, Sandwiches, Sauce, Show, Sodas, Soups, Spicy, Spinach, Tator, Tomato, Toppings, Tots, Wahlbrewski, Wahlcoctions, Wahlfaves, Wraps

Yesterday's Answer: Iridescence

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1**, order online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

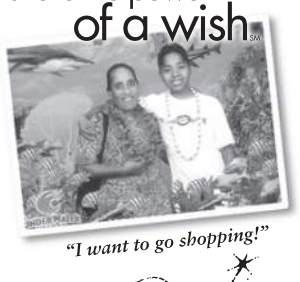
EMPLOYMENT

Photographer–2yrs. experience. P.O. Box 506448 or email at dipoto@naver.com. Dipoto Co.

(1) Household Caretaker. Must have 5 years experience. Interested applicants, please call 285-4574.

(1) Restaurant Manager/Chef: $5.55–10.00/hr. High School diploma, 4 years experience in Korean cuisine and restaurant management required. Email resume to hankyung@hanmisaipan.com.

S.Y.N. LLC dba Jiang Li Xiang
is now hiring
(1) **Assistant Manager**
Atleast 2 to 4 years of work experience in hospitality industry.
(1) **Waitress**
All applicants must be fluent in Japanese and Chinese language.
Call 285-9885 and ask for Jerry

share the power of a wish

"I want to go shopping!"
MAKE-A-WISH®
Visit us at
865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza
Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH
Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net
www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

Wanted – Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Call 532-3423 for interview.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
2-BR, 1-BTH. **$350-$550**/month. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$600/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$550/month

Hilltop Codominium
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view.
$700/month
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft
$500/month
Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded

FEATURES:
- **Fully Furnished**
- **Back-up Generator**
- **Air-conditioning in all rooms**
- **FREE WiFi**
- **Laundry Area**
- **Nighttime Security**
- **Ample Parking**
- **24hr water**

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Global Investment Group, LLC dba New Tokyo Sakura Club
is now hiring
(1) **Assistant Manager**
Atleast 2 to 4 years of work experience in hospitality industry.
(1) **Waitress**
All applicants must be fluent in Japanese and Chinese language.
Call 287-8098 and ask for Jerry

J'S MALOTTE CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500877, Saipan, MP 96950
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 Storekeeper
High School Graduate. 2 Years Experience. $5.50 p/h
Duties and Responsibilities: Attend to customers, price and stock merchandise, wipes and clean shelves and other related duties as a Storekeeper.
For inquiries please contact: 235-2427

Legislative Bureau

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-14-004
PL-UNGRADED: $1,148.36 B/W
The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

Position: Legislative Assistant
Opening Date: April 11, 2014
Closing Date: April 30, 2014

General Duties:
- Drafts legislative documents including but not limited to resolutions, committee reports, and letters, as requested by the Chairperson of the Committee to which he or she is assigned to;
- Attends legislative session and committee meetings as requested by the Chairperson of his or her assigned committee;
- Performs investigative and legislative research and analysis;
- Prepares reports and studies including preparation of letters, legislation, and related documents as requested by members of his or her assigned respective legislative house;
- Maintains a reasonable record of all tasks assigned by his or her immediate supervisor Chairperson of the Committee or other members of his or her assigned respective legislative house and such record is subject to review upon request; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- **Possess four years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education with one year of legislative work experience;**
- **Possess ample knowledge of the legislative process;**
- **Excellent research, analytical, and strong writing skills; and**
- **Ability to produce results within limited time frames and work under pressure on a daily basis.**

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. **Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
Himawari Saipan, Inc.

- **Sushi Cook – 1**
- **Japanese Cook – 1**
- **Chinese Cook– 1**

Minimum of 5 years work experience.

Contact number 233-1530 / 1531 /1533
Look for Mr. Suzuki

Job Vacancy Announcement

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.

(02) REGISTERED NURSE
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI-RN License
- Attend a hemodialysis training program
- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN)-Preferred
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
- One to five years hemodialysis experience or related field
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- English Language Skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Must be flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on 04/25/2014 at 4:00p.m. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2905 ext. 124.

Mustang Boss 302
a thrill to drive, but lacks the extras
Mary Tyler Moore honored for lifetime achievement
SUDOKU
'King of Aces' on island through January
MCR welcomed nine new members in 2011
Subscribe to the CNMI's
First Daily Newspaper
CALL 235-NEWS

WHATZIT Solution: Go over it with a fine-tooth comb

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT™
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Wizards beat Bulls 101-99 in OT to take 2-0 lead

CHICAGO (AP)—Bradley Beal came on strong late in regulation to finish with 26 points, Nene scored six of his 17 in overtime and the Washington Wizards beat the Chicago Bulls 101-99 Tuesday to take a 2-0 lead in their first-round series.

Washington rallied from 10 down in the fourth quarter after blowing a 17-point first-quarter lead.

Nene scored the first six points in overtime after being held in check by Defensive Player of the Year Joakim Noah in regulation, and the Wizards hung on after Kirk Hinrich failed to convert at the foul line in the closing seconds.

Noah had just hit two free throws when Beal missed a jumper with 18 seconds left. Jimmy Butler got the rebound and Chicago called time.

Hinrich, a 76-percent free throw shooter this season, had a chance to tie it after getting fouled by Nene on a drive with 2.4 seconds left. But his first attempt hit the rim. He deliberately missed the second, and Trevor Ariza grabbed the rebound to seal the win for Washington.

D.J. Augustin led Chicago with 25 points. Taj Gibson had 22 points and 10 rebounds. Noah added 20 points and 12 boards, but the Bulls will have to dig themselves out of a huge hole after dropping two at home.

AP

Washington Wizards forward Nene Hilario goes up for a dunk during the overtime period of Game 2 in an opening-round NBA basketball playoff series Tuesday, April 22, 2014, in Chicago.

John Wall had 16 points and seven assists for Washington.

The Bulls appeared to be in good shape up 87-77 five minutes into the fourth and were still leading 91-85 when Beal, quiet in the second half, shot the Wizards back into the game.

He nailed a 3-pointer that made it 91-88 and added a floater to make it a one-point game. Then, with a chance to put Washington ahead, he hit 1 of 2 free throws with 52.9 seconds left to tie it at 91.

Both teams had opportunities to win it in the closing seconds but couldn't convert.

Augustin threw up an air ball, setting off a scramble that led to a jump ball between Gibson and Nene. Beal controlled the tip, but after a timeout, he missed an 18-footer along the baseline as time expired.

The Bulls were trailing 64-61 with just under six minutes left in the third when they went on an 8-1 run for their first lead of the game.

Mike Dunleavy Jr. put them ahead 65-64 with a jumper, and he capped that spurt with a layup that made it a four-point game with about four minutes left in the quarter.

The Bulls were leading 87-77 after a driving layup by Noah and two free throws by Butler with 6:59 left regulation.

Raptors 100, Nets 95

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan scored 30 points, and Jonas Valanciunas had 15 points and 14 rebounds as Toronto beat Brooklyn to even their first-round playoff series at one game each.

Amir Johnson scored 16 points and Kyle Lowry had 14 as the Raptors rebounded from a 94-87 loss in Game 1. It was Valanciunas' second straight playoff double-double.

Joe Johnson scored 18 points, Deron Williams had 15 and Mirza Teletovic 14 for the Nets, who will host Game 3 on Friday night.

Hampered by foul trouble throughout the game, Brooklyn's Paul Pierce went 2 for 11 from the field, including 0 for 6 from 3-point range. He finished with seven points.

Kevin Garnett scored 13 points and Shaun Livingston had 12 for the Nets, who led 66-64 heading into the fourth and couldn't take advantage of 21 Toronto turnovers.

Pacers 101, Hawks 85

In Indianapolis, Paul George had 27 points, 10 rebounds and six assists, leading Indiana to the victory.

The Pacers and Hawks are tied at a game apiece heading into Game 3 in Atlanta on Thursday.

Reserve Luis Scola added 20 points and seven rebounds for the Pacers. George Hill had all 15 of his points in the second half.

Indiana grabbed control with a 25-2 run that carried over into the fourth quarter.

George was especially effective even though he spent much of the night defending Hawks point guard Jeff Teague, who had 14 points. Paul Millsap finished with 19 for Atlanta.

Spurs' Popovich wins NBA Coach of the Year

The San Antonio Spurs, the model for stability and sustained success in the modern NBA, were still a shaken team when they showed up for training camp in October, less than four months after a devastating loss to Miami in the NBA Finals.

Some coaches would try to brush off the disappointment of letting a title slip through their fingers and refuse to acknowledge the elephant in the room.

Gregg Popovich took it head on, embraced the heartache, and in a career full of masterful coaching performances, delivered perhaps his finest effort in season No. 18.

"The way we lost in the finals wasn't an ordinary loss, it was pretty devastating," Popovich said on Tuesday after being named NBA coach of the year. "We decided that we needed to just face that right off the bat at the beginning of the season and get it out of the way. Don't blame it on the basketball gods or bad fortune or anything like that, the Miami Heat beat us and won the championship and that's that."

Popovich joined Don Nelson and Pat Riley as the only coaches in league history to take home the Red Auerbach trophy three times in their career.

"They're on the hood of my car," Popovich cracked. "One, two, three, right on the car, the way players do license plates. ... I've got three of those right on the hood."

He's never liked the attention, never bought into the proclamations of his genius. When the accolades come his way, Popovich is quick to deflect them, giving the credit to his players, his assistant coaches, owner Peter Holt and general manager R.C. Buford. The humility in his voice on Tuesday was genuine, the challenge of putting the pieces back together after last season's finish as daunting as ever.

They showed up to training camp still stinging from that defeat, and Popovich had to get to know a new-look coaching staff after losing longtime assistants Brett Brown and Mike Budenholzer to head coaching jobs in Philadelphia and Atlanta.

Then he led the Spurs to a league-best 62-20 record, which gives them home-court advantage throughout the playoffs. And he did it while deftly navigating a season filled with nagging injuries to several key players. Tim Duncan was the only starter to play in at least 70 games. No Spur averaged 30 minutes per game and Tony Parker led the team with a modest 16.7 points per game.

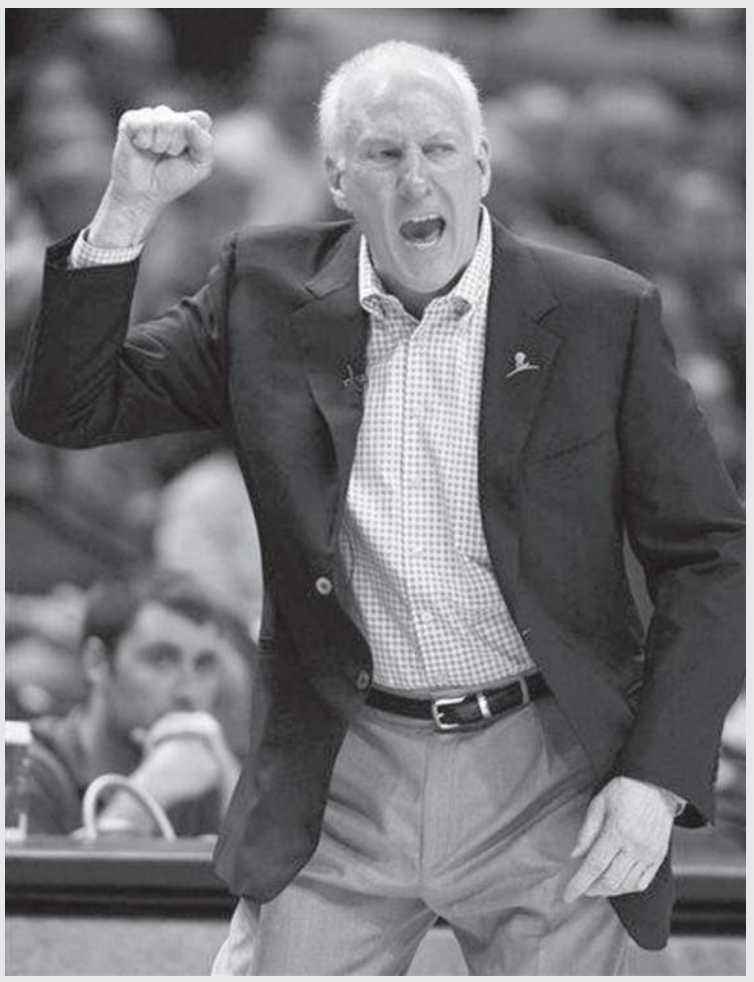
Despite all of that, the Spurs won at least 50 games for the 15th straight season and topped 60 for the fourth time in that span.

"Day after day, year after year, the energy that Pop provides our organization is truly unique," Buford said.

The Spurs lead the Dallas Mavericks 1-0 in their best-of-seven series, with Game 2 on Wednesday night in San Antonio.

"He's a gentleman," Spurs swingman Marco Belinelli said. "Everybody knows that he's the best coach in the league. So to say that is not really important. But maybe some people, they don't know he's really a great guy, a great gentleman. He really helps guys, helps each other. He wants to help everybody. Great person."

When Miami topped San Antonio in that classic seven-game series, Popovich's reaction resonated deeply within some members of the Heat organization.



AP

In this March 6, 2014 file photo, San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich reacts to a call during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Miami Heat, in San Antonio.

Instead of showing his disappointment at the final buzzer, Popovich lingered on the court for a few minutes, sharing heartfelt embraces and words with Erik Spoelstra, Dwyane Wade and LeBron James, among others—even smiling as he chatted with them and congratulated them on winning the title. And when told of Popovich's award Tuesday, James offered high praise to the Spurs' coach.

"Not surprised," James said. "It's well-awarded. I have the utmost respect for Gregg Popovich, man. Not only what he's been able to do for that team, but him just being able to always keep those guys motivated and always keep their best interests. ... From the outside looking in, it seems that he has their best interests and all he cares about is the team's success and nothing else matters. That's big-time."

Behind all his press conference bluster and the orneriness he directs toward the officials, there is a softer side that endears Popovich to those around him. That much was revealed during Game 1 against the Mavericks when he was interviewed by Craig Sager Jr., who was filling in for his father, a longtime sideline reporter who is being treated for leukemia. Popovich's curt demeanor and one-word answers to the elder Sager's questions have become appointment viewing, but this time the coach stopped in the middle of tense game, stared right into the camera and delivered a heart-felt message.

"We miss you. You've been an important part of all of us for a long time, doing a great job," he said. "We want your fanny back on the court, and I promise I'll be nice."

Popovich garnered 59 first-place votes and 380 total points in voting conducted by a panel of media members. Phoenix's Jeff Hornacek (37 first-place votes) finished second and Chicago's Tom Thibodeau (12) finished third in the voting, with Charlotte's Steve Clifford and Toronto's Dwane Casey rounding out the top five in a season so strong that Spoelstra did not make the top 10.

Pujols' 500th HR helps Angels beat Nationals, 7-2

WASHINGTON (AP)—Albert Pujols became the first major leaguer to hit his 499th and 500th homers in the same game, driving in five runs to help the Los Angeles Angels beat the Washington Nationals 7-2 Tuesday night.

The first baseman connected twice off Taylor Jordan (0-3)—a three-run homer in the first inning and two-run drive in the fifth—to become the 26th player in major league history to reach the milestone.

Pujols is the first player to collect Nos. 499 and 500 in the same game, according to STATS. About three months past his 34th birthday, he's also the third-youngest to get to 500. He has eight homers this season, all in the past 13 games.

Tyler Skaggs (2-0) gave up two runs in seven innings for the win.

Marlins 1, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Jose Fernandez matched his career high with 14 strikeouts in eight innings and combined with Steve Cishek on a three-hitter as the Marlins shut out the Braves.

Fernandez (3-1) outpitched Atlanta's Alex Wood (2-3), who also was dominant. Wood allowed four hits and one run with no walks and a career-high 11 strikeouts in eight innings.

The Marlins gave Fernandez the only run he would need in the fourth. Giancarlo Stanton hit a one-out double to left field and scored on Casey McGehee's single up the middle.

Fernandez struck out the side in the fourth and fifth innings. He allowed three hits with no walks.

Cishek pitched a perfect ninth for his fourth save.

Cardinals 3, Mets 0

In New York, Adam Wainwright threw seven neat innings before leaving with a knee injury, and Jon Jay hit a two-run single that sent the Cardinals to a victory over the Mets.

Left fielder Matt Holliday robbed Chris Young of a tying homer, one night after the Mets played some dazzling defense of their own to post a shutout in the series opener.

Wainwright (4-1) faced the minimum through four innings and outpitched Dillon Gee. It was the second consecutive scoreless start for Wainwright, who tossed a two-hit shutout last Thursday at Washington.

Phillies 3, Dodgers 2, 10 innings

In Los Angeles, Domonic Brown doubled home the go-ahead run in the 10th inning after a costly error by left fielder Carl Crawford, and the Phillies beat the Dodgers.

Carlos Ruiz reached second base when his flyball to short left field glanced off Crawford's glove as shortstop Hanley Ramirez nearly collided with the left fielder. Brown followed with a drive to the fence in left-center on a 1-1 pitch from J.P. Howell (1-2).

Antonio Bastardo (3-1) pitched a scoreless inning for the victory and Jonathan Papelbon got three outs for his sixth save, putting him within eight of 300.

Reds 4, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Johnny Cueto tossed his second three-hitter against the Pittsburgh in a week and the Cincinnati Reds eased past the struggling Pirates.

Cueto (2-2) struck out four and walked three while running his career-long scoreless streak to 21 innings before giving up a home run to Andrew McCutchen with one out in the ninth. He improved to 15-4 in his career against the Pirates and became the first Cincinnati pitcher to toss consecutive complete games since Mat Latos did it in June 2012.

Brayan Pena and Zack Cozart had consecutive RBI hits off Edinson Volquez (1-1) in the seventh to provide all the offense Cueto needed.

Volquez allowed two runs and five hits with a walk and three strikeouts.

Cubs 9, Diamondbacks 2

In Chicago, Jason Hammel pitched seven strong innings, Mike Olt hit a three-run homer and Nate Schierholtz drove in a pair of early runs to lead the Cubs to a victory over the Diamondbacks.

Hammel (3-1) allowed just one run and four hits in seven innings to lower his ERA to 2.60.

Olt still is batting below .200 for the season (.195), but has four homers and nine runs batted in.

The Cubs, who've won three of four, have won back-to-back games for the first time this season. They last won consecutive games on Sept. 9 and 10 of last season against the Cincinnati Reds. Their last consecutive home wins came on Sept. 4 and 6 against Miami and Milwaukee.

Brandon McCarthy (0-4) managed to lower his ERA from 7.11 to 6.23. He allowed five runs—one earned—and seven hits in five innings.

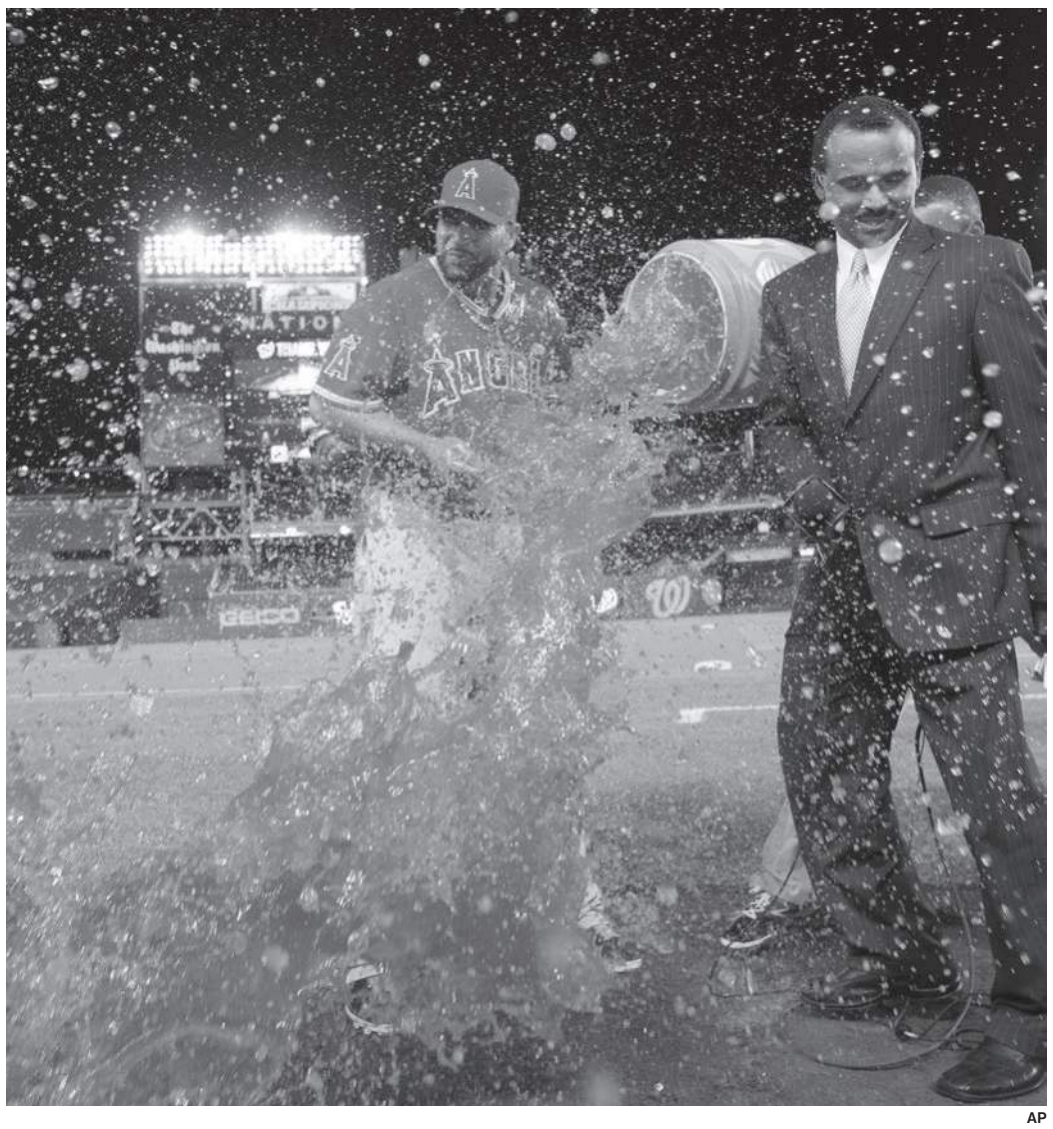
Padres 2, Brewers 1, 12 innings

In Milwaukee, Chase Headley homered in the top of the 12th inning and San Diego relievers tossed six shutout innings in the Padres' win over the Brewers.

Huston Street retired the side in order in the bottom of the 12th for his seventh save after Donn Roach (1-0) allowed just one hit over two scoreless innings.

Headley's homer to center off a 1-0 fastball from Alfredo Figaro (0-1) was one of the few mistakes from the mound among teams with two of the best staff ERAs in baseball. Padres starter Ian Kennedy labored through six innings while Brewers counterpart Yovani Gallardo went seven strong innings before the bullpens took over.

The Padres' bullpen allowed three hits and struck out eight to snap Milwaukee's four-game winning streak.



AP

Los Angeles Angels Albert Pujols is showered with a bucket of Gatorade by his teammates during on on-air interview following game against theWashington Nationals, Tuesday, April 22, 2014 in Washington.

Rockies 2, Giants 1

In Denver, Nolan Arenado hit a go-ahead homer leading off the fifth and Franklin Morales outdueled Madison Bumgarner, lifting the Rockies to a win over the Giants.

Troy Tulowitzki also added a solo shot for the Rockies, who have hit seven homers in two nights against the Giants.

Morales (2-1) was masterful on the mound as he allowed five hits over seven innings, which matches the longest outing of his career. The left-hander's only mistake was a hanging slider to Hunter Pence in the fifth. It was Pence's second homer of the season.

LaTroy Hawkins got the final two outs in a rocky ninth for his sixth save in as many chances.

Yankees 9, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Jacoby Ellsbury doubled, tripled, drove in two runs and made a sliding catch in his return to Fenway Park, helping the New York Yankees and Masahiro Tanaka beat the Boston Red Sox.

Ellsbury received a mixed reception in his first game at Fenway since leaving the Red Sox to sign a $153 million, seven-year contract with the Yankees.

Tanaka (3-0) allowed two runs on seven hits in 7 1-3 innings with seven strikeouts and no walks. His 35 strikeouts in his first four major league starts set a team record and he's walked just two batters in 29 1-3 innings.

Jon Lester (2-3) struggled after four outstanding outings, allowing seven runs in 4 2-3 innings.

There were more boos than cheers from the crowd that contained a sizeable amount of Yankees fans when Ellsbury stepped in as the first batter of the game.

With an 0-2 count, he drove the ball about five feet from the top of the center field wall. It was ruled a triple after a spectator reached out and interfered with it.

Tigers 8, White Sox 6

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run homer, Justin Verlander pitched seven solid innings and Detroit held on for a victory over Chicago.

Cabrera was 4 for 23 on this homestand before going 3 for 5 against the White Sox—including a homer and a double off Charlie Leesman (0-1), who was called up from the minors to start in place of the injured Chris Sale.

Verlander (3-1) had little to worry about after allowing a first-inning homer to Jose Abreu. He allowed two runs and eight hits, striking out seven and walking two.

Chicago's Dayan Viciedo had a career-high four hits, and Adam Dunn hit a two-run homer in the ninth to pull the White Sox within two. Joba Chamberlain got the final out for his first save, retiring Alexei Ramirez on a liner to left with one on.

Rays 7, Twins 3

In St. Petersburg, Fla., David Price allowed six hits in his first complete game of the season, David DeJesus drove in three runs, and Tampa beat Minnesota.

Price (3-1) struck out 12 in his ninth career complete game.

DeJesus stopped an 0-for-24 skid with an RBI single during a three-run first and added a third-inning two-run single.

Kyle Gibson (3-1) gave up seven runs and 10 hits in three-plus innings for Minnesota. The right-hander had given up just two runs over 19 1-3 innings in his three other starts this year.

The Twins got home runs from Brian Dozier and Chris Colabello.

Rangers 5, Athletics 4

In Oakland, Calif., Michael Choice singled in the go-ahead run in the ninth inning and Texas rallied to defeat Oakland.

Josh Wilson doubled to drive in the tying run just ahead of Choice, who began his career with the A's.

Alexi Ogando (1-1) recorded one out in the eighth to pick up the win. Joakim Soria pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

Luke Gregerson (0-1) took the loss after blowing his third save opportunity, giving up two runs on three hits. Gregerson appeared to have pitched out of trouble when he threw out pinch hitter Mitch Moreland at the plate on a safety squeeze by Leonys Martin for the second out.

Martin stole second and scored when Wilson, who cost the Rangers two runs with a fielding error in the fourth, doubled.

Astros 5, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Collin McHugh struck out a career-high 12 in his season debut, and Jason Castro, Chris Carter and Matt Dominguez homered to propel Houston past Seattle.

McHugh (1-0) was called up from Triple-A Oklahoma City for the start and struck out the first three batters to set the tone for his first win in 10 career starts. The right-hander didn't walk a batter, giving up three hits in 6 2-3 shutout innings.

Josh Fields pitched the ninth for his second save. The Astros have won six straight against the Mariners.

Justin Smoak provided Seattle's only offense with a two-run homer in the seventh inning as the Mariners extended their losing streak to eight games.

Royals 8, Indians 2

In Cleveland, James Shields allowed two runs in six innings and Mike Moustakas hit a three-run homer to lead Kansas City over Cleveland.

Shields (2-2) struck out nine and won his second straight start.

Moustakas' homer sparked a four-run fourth that featured five hits. The Royals are 10-0 when scoring at least four runs.

Eric Hosmer had four hits, including an RBI double in the seventh.

Danny Salazar (0-3) didn't allow a hit until the fourth, but unraveled quickly when Hosmer led off with a single. Billy Butler followed with another single before Salazar retired the next two hitters. Moustakas drove a 1-1 pitch into Kansas City's bullpen in right field, breaking a 2-for-15 slump.

Blue Jays 9, Orioles 3

In Toronto, Brett Lawrie and Melky Cabrera each hit three-run homers in the eighth inning to power Toronto past Baltimore.

Edwin Encarnacion connected for his first homer of the season for Toronto, another three-run drive. Lawrie's long ball off Evan Meek (0-1) snapped a 3-all tie in front of a sparse crowd of 14,866 at Rogers Centre. Cabrera connected for his fifth of the season off Josh Stinson, putting the Blue Jays in front, 9-3.

Esmil Rogers pitched a scoreless ninth for Toronto and reliever Steve Delabar (2-0) picked up the win to help the Blue Jays improve to 3-1 against the Orioles this season.

Manning says he and Gase didn't break NFL rules

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)— Peyton Manning wants to clear up a couple of things about his recent visit to Tuscaloosa, Ala., that raised eyebrows at NFL headquarters and the hackles of some Tennessee fans.

The five-time MVP said he's always been driven to improve, a quality that's even more essential at age 38, and that's why he met with Alabama coach Nick Saban a couple of weeks ago.

Saban shared defensive tips with Manning, who gave him pointers on the hurry-up offense that has befuddled the Crimson Tide.

Saban said Denver offensive coordinator Adam Gase also visited his staff that week. NFL rules prohibit players and their coaches from meeting before the start of offseason workout programs, and that's why the NFL said it would look into the matter.

Following the Broncos' first organized workout Monday, however, Manning insisted that he and Gase didn't break any rules because they didn't meet with each other in Tuscaloosa.

"Yeah, that didn't happen. We know what the rules were. Like I said, I was there on an independent project, and Adam was as well," Manning said.

Saban has also said that Manning and Gase didn't meet with his coaches at the same time.

Gase and Saban go way back: Gase got his start in coaching under Saban in the 1990s at Michigan State and followed him to LSU as a graduate assistant.

As for fans from the quarterback's alma mater who might be upset that he met with a rival coach from another SEC team, Manning said he still bleeds orange.

"Obviously, I have been to Tennessee doing the same thing for the past 16 years. I'll do that, going to make it 17 years in a row, going back to Knoxville. Hopefully that covers me as far as being loyal to my university," Manning said. "Most of the other places, I go just one time. So I've got 17 years at one place, so I think it's pretty clear where my loyalties lie.

AP

Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning talks to the media after working out at the NFL football teams training facility in Englewood, Colo., on Monday, April 21, 2014.

"The projects I did this year were to help the Denver Broncos and to help me. That still is what my job is, to make myself a better player."

The NFL rule prohibiting players and coaches from meeting before the start of the voluntary offseason workouts, the first two weeks of which are limited to strength and conditioning work and rehabilitation, were installed with the latest collective bargaining agreement a few years ago.

It's designed to prevent players from feeling pressured to meet with coaching staffs during what's supposed to be their free time in the offseason. Players and coaches often get together in casual settings and NFL coaches often meet with college coaches.

Manning's appetite for improvement is what led to his trip this offseason to Alabama. He also visited Oklahoma and Oklahoma State.

"There's different things that I've done throughout my career in the offseason that I've sought out someone to talk to, something to study to try to make myself a better quarterback," he said. "I believe in this league you either get better or you get worse—you don't stay the same. I know that has gotten a lot of attention, but that is something I've done throughout my career.

"I certainly know the rules, but I know there's no rule that says a player can't get better—at least I haven't read that one. That's what I was trying to do and I believe that is important, especially as you get older, in the offseason to try to seek out some things to try to make yourself a better player."

Seeing the league's only five-time MVP trying to improve impressed new defensive end DeMarcus Ware, who was lured to Denver by a three-year, $30 million offer from general manager John Elway and the chance to play with Manning, who's intent on getting back to the Super Bowl this season following the Broncos' 43-8 loss to Seattle in February.

"Sometimes it doesn't matter about accolades, it doesn't matter if you were MVP or not, it's what can I do to really get better for next season?" Ware said. "Peyton's one of those types of guys that puts in that effort, not just on the field but off the field, trying to figure out, `What can I do to get better?' Because he has a bad taste in his mouth from the last season and he doesn't want it to happen again."

Sufa softball fundraiser this weekend

Team Sufa will be hosting a softball tournament fundraiser this weekend, April 26 and 27, at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.

There will be a manager's technical meeting at 6:30pm today and all interested participants are invited to go to the pavilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Entrance fee is set at $100 per team. There is no deadline to register, however, the first 10 teams to pay in full will land a spot in the double-elimination bracket.

By rule, two female players (no age limit) must be on every team's roster and at least one must play in the field at all times, while both must remain in the batting lineup. There is a maximum of 15 players per team.

The bracket will be randomly formulated and games will start at 9am on Saturday.

Sufa is a non-profit organization and essentially raises its own funds throughout the year in order to represent the CNMI in the popular CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament held in the mainland. ***(PR)***

FIELDERS

From Page 28

Jeremy Atalig at the bottom of the fifth cut the deficit to two, 3-5, and the Braves went on to move within one in the sixth inning with Frankie Norita connecting on an RBI triple. The Braves could have either tied or stolen the lead in the sixth inning, as they got off to a strong start in that frame with leadoff batter Frankie Lieto hitting his target and Renguul committing a throwing error allowing the runner to advance to second base. Norita was next at bat and his triple drove home Lieto. With Norita at third and no outs, the Braves had a lot of chances to score the game-tying run or grab the lead, however, Lizama was there to spoil the party, as he struck out the next three batters.

Despite the missed opportunity, the Braves remained in the game, as they stranded two Fielders runners at the top of the seventh and last inning. The Braves got a 5-3 putout play on Fielders leadoff batter Ada before second pitcher Ricky Joe Riungel walked the next two batters, who were then stuck to first and second base after Lieto replaced Riungel and got two strikeouts to end the top of the seventh.

At the bottom of the seventh, the Fielders also recorded a 5-3 putout play against Riungel.

Next up to the plate was catcher Jun Rabauliman, who got a full count and was given another chance at bat when Fielders catcher Quinson Blas failed to catch a high foul ball from the former. Rabauliman returned to the batter's box anew and was struck out as he came up with an empty swing. The Braves catches could have let the ball go and walked to first, as Lizama threw a near-shoulder high pitch. Lizama went on to get his 12th strikeout in the win-or-go-home game.

With two outs, the pressure was on for third batter Atalig, who was caught looking when Lizama made his first pitch. Lizama's second was way too low and Atalig did not bite the bait. On the third pitch, Atalig made contact with the ball, which headed in between the first and second base and before it landed, Renguul bent and caught the line drive to end the game and hand the Fielders the second and last finals berth.

The Fielders forced a date with the Braves for the last finals seat after eliminating the Lions last Thursday, 5-2.

TOKA

From Page 28

younger big guys outplaying the Hoops' bigger, but slower frontliners and Basa and Dan Barcinas firing long jumpers. Four Toka players scored at least 4 points each in the second quarter, padding their lead to 41-19 at halftime

Toka never relinquished the double-digit spread in the second half, as the Hoops still failed to buy successive baskets from outside, while the former continued to work out a balance offense.

Five Toka players finished in twin digits with Lampkin leading the way with his 18 points. Basa contributed 15, Barcinas chipped in 14, and Marvin Rabauliman and Kobe Mendoza added 13 and 11, respectively. Villacrusis and Lauron were the only two double-figure scorers for the Hoops, tallying 16 and 10.

Toka 84 – Lampkin 18, Basa 15, Barcinas 14, Rabauliman 13, Mendoza 11, Caro 5, Tudela 3, Joyner 3.

Hoopaholics 48 – Villacrusis 16, Lauron 10, Itibus 8, Lee 5, Fitial 5, Manibusan 2, Tenorio 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-6, 41-19, 58-33, 84-48.

CRUCIAL

From Page 28

in contention.

The round-robin event will have its final game this weekend and if Choi and Miyawaki pull off an upset over Tan and Ishikawa, all three teams could end up with similar 1-1 records.

Meanwhile, the other girls doubles event—U12—also has a round-robin format with four pairs fighting for the championship. Jireh Warren and Asia Raulerson drew first blood after sweeping Erika Tuttle and Tiara Imai last Saturday, 6-4, 6-0. Susan Sablan and Maaya Sato and siblings Conatsu and Coume Kaga are the two other pairs entered in the girls U12 doubles and they will play three games this weekend at PIC and Kanoa Resort hard courts.

In the boys U12 doubles, there are only three teams with Sean Lee and Aditya Rai recording the first win in the opening week of the annual competition. Lee and Rai dueled Daniel Kang and Ji Min Woo and lost the first set, 3-6, before recovering in the last two to steal the win. Rai and Lee coasted past their foes in the second set, 6-2, and completed the comeback with a tough 10-5 triumph in the third set. Siblings Eugene and Eu Bin Park are also competing in the division.

In the boys U14 doubles, Tony Kim teamed up with Vincent Tudela in defeating Robbie Schorr and Steven Goodwin, 6-3, 6-3, last Saturday at the Kanoa Resort hard courts. Haruya Eda and Ken Song is also entered in the event and played their first game against Kim and Tudela last Sunday, but results of the match were unavailable at press time.

Three teams are also battling for the U18 doubles crown. The list includes the pairs of Thea Minor and Jake Lee, Daniel Park and Michael Ren, and Tommy Choi and Amami Sakano. Lee and Minor won their opening game against Park and Ren last Saturday at PIC, 6-3, 6-1.

The remaining doubles matches in all doubles divisions and the title games in the singles events will be played this weekend.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	12	8	.600	–
Toronto	11	9	.550	1
Tampa Bay	10	10	.500	2
Baltimore	9	10	.474	2½
Boston	9	12	.429	3½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	10	7	.588	–
Kansas City	10	9	.526	1
Chicago	10	11	.476	2
Minnesota	9	10	.474	2
Cleveland	9	11	.450	2½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	13	7	.650	–
Texas	13	8	.619	½
Los Angeles	10	10	.500	3
Seattle	7	13	.350	6
Houston	7	14	.333	6½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	13	7	.650	–
Washington	11	10	.524	2½
New York	10	10	.500	3
Philadelphia	10	10	.500	3
Miami	10	11	.476	3½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	15	6	.714	–
St. Louis	12	9	.571	3
Cincinnati	9	11	.450	5½
Pittsburgh	9	12	.429	6
Chicago	7	12	.368	7

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	12	9	.571	–
Colorado	12	10	.545	½
San Francisco	11	10	.524	1
San Diego	10	11	.476	2
Arizona	5	18	.217	8

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2014 XTERRA Saipan Winners

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Top 7 finishers in the men's pro division of the 2014 XTERRA Saipan Championship pose for a group photo during the awards ceremony at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan early this month.

The Top 6 finishers in the women's pro are all smiles after receiving their prizes.

Awardees in the men's relay (sport course) pose for a group photo.

Men's 40 to 44 winner (sport course) Bob Ferrer is flanked by runners-up Jay Diyco, left, and Ernie Moises.

Men's 45 to 49 champion (sport course) Russ Quinn, right, is joined by runner-up Allen Perez and Ricky Castro, left, for a group photo.

Mixed relay winner Erico Castro, Angel Tan, and Cesar Danao pose with their medals.

Mixed relay runners-up Mario Galang, Victoria Chentsova, and Goshi Sato pose for a photo.

Women's relay team winners Angel De Jesus, Glorybel Tan, Amy Sletten, and Lorie Hutchinson are all smiles after getting their medals.

Non-pro winners in the women's division pose for a group photo.

Men's relay runners-up Manny Aaron, Kento Akimaru, and Samson Tan pose for a group photo.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Fielders upset Braves to enter finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Fielders denied the Braves a return trip to the finals after eking out a 5-4 upset in their playoff game in the Big League division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Fielders scored all five runs at the top of the fourth inning to take control of the game and hung in there, foiling the Braves' comeback bid with Jose Lizama playing steady on the mound and the rest of his teammates stepping up on defense. The Fielder face the defending champions Padres in the winner-take-all finale today. The Padres, who won last year's Big League title against the Braves, 2-1, advanced to the finals first after incidentally beating the Braves in the battle between the Top 2 finishers in the regular season this year, 4-3.

The back-to-back close losses came after the Braves took the pennant away from the Padres this season.

A two-run single from Javon Borja put the Fielders in the board at the top of the fourth and the team added three more runs off Khobby Kaipat's RBI single, Davin Ada's sacrifice fly, and Fermin Renguul's stolen base.

The Braves also lit up the scoreboard in the fourth, but got only two runs off Ray Saralu's two-RBI single to still fall behind, 2-5. An RBI single from

See FIELDERS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Fielders huddle before heading back to the field for the bottom of the sixth inning of their playoff game against the Braves in the Big League division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Toka routs Hoops for second win

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Toka's Jason Lampkin goes for a reverse layup in a fastbreak play in the third quarter, while teammate Preston Basa and the Hoopaholics' Kelvin Fitial look on during their game in the QQ caging last Monday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Toka almost doubled-up the Hoopaholics en route to an easy 84-48 victory in the second game of the 2014 QQ Rent A Car Invitational Basketball League last Monday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The win was Toka's second in as many games, as it also cruised to a 65-48 triumph over High-Five during the league's opening day early this month. Toka is now in second place in the team standings behind the unbeaten and defending champion Blue Haus (3-0). The Hoops dropped to a 1-3 card, tying High-Five, while JP World (2-1), Island Manpower (0-1), Rebels (0-1), and Rollers (0-0) complete the field.

Toka dominated the Hoopaholics right from the get-go, leading at 24-6. Kagman High School big man Jason Lampkin jumpstarted Toka's offense, while shooter Preston Basa put the finishing touches in the opening canto. Lampkin kicked off the first period with back-to-back baskets and finished the quarter with more points (9) than the entire Hoops crew. Basa, on the other hand, scored 7 of Toka's last 9 markers in the first 10 minutes of play to give the team an early double-digit margin.

The Hoopaholics was held to three field goals in the first canto with James Villacrusis making a layup and Alex Lauron drilling the two other baskets. The Hoops' patient offense backfired, as it either ran out of time for good shots or still failed to find the open man despite its ball movement, as Toka's defense was quick to react to change of possessions.

The Hoops continued to struggle offensively, as it lacked an outside threat with John Sablan opting to call the shots from the sidelines and Kelvin Fitial, who has a decent 3-point shooting percentage, missing several long jumpers. The Hoops, who has a bunch of forwards on its roster, also failed to consistently hit point-blanked shots.

In contrast, Toka made baskets from all angles with its

See TOKA on Page 26

Crucial tiffs this weekend at junior champs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An interesting battle will take place this weekend in the girls U14 doubles event in the 2014 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships.

The duo of Tania Tan and Julia Ishikawa will be squaring off against the tandem of Grace Choi and Malika Miyawaki with the first pair going for a win that would give the team the division championship. Tan and Ishikawa moved one victory away from clinching the girls U14 doubles crown after beating Ami Tsukagoshi and Mimi Sakano last Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan hard court, 6-0, 6-3. Sakano and Tsukagoshi returned to PIC and downed Choi and Miyawaki, 7-5, 6-3, to remain

See CRUCIAL on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tania Tan, center, receives her NMASA/ TSL Foundation Student Athlete of the Month (February) prize from Tan Siu Lin Foundation manager Maggie Sablan, right, in a brief ceremony at the foundation office yesterday at the JP Centre Building. Also in the photo is Tania's mother, Lydia. The younger Tan will be playing in this weekend's 2014 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships.